Trade and Industry

23 June 1978 Every Friday 40p

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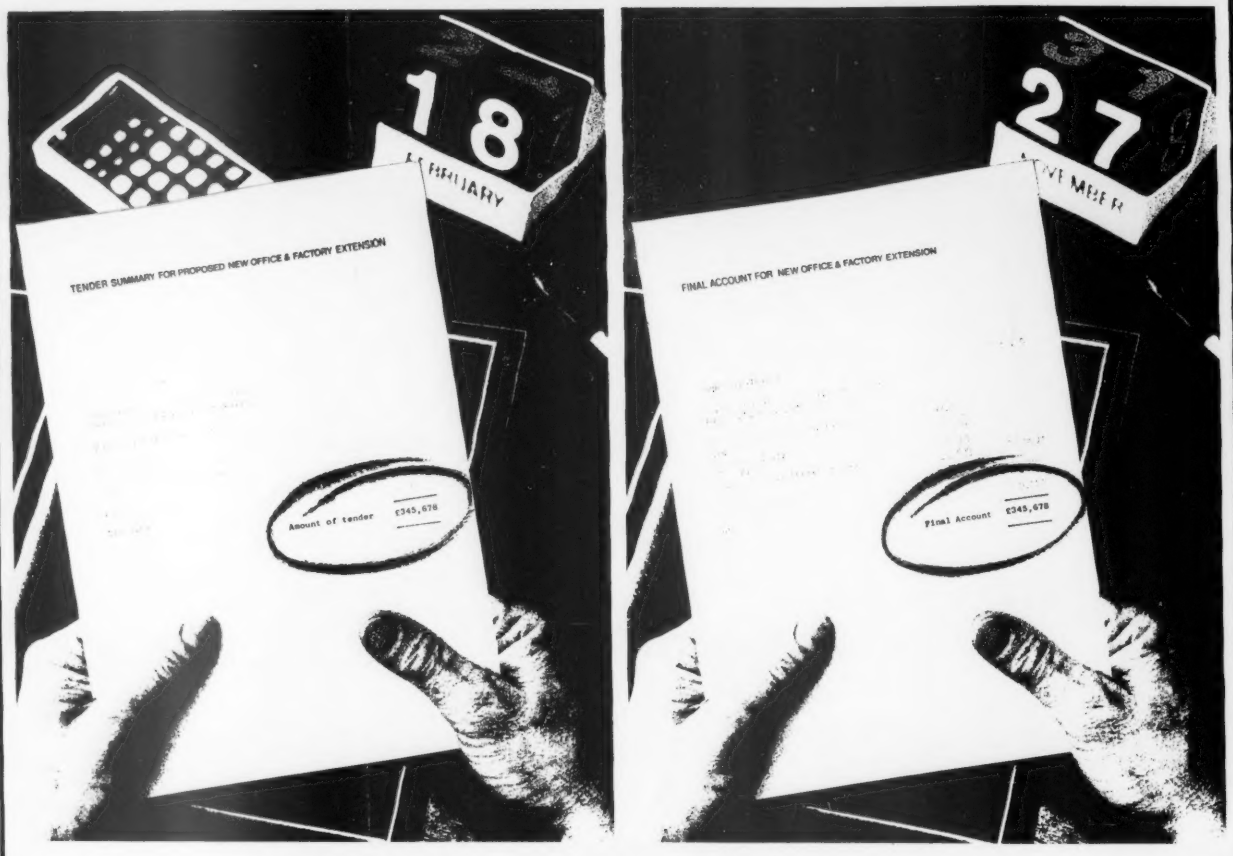
18
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Trade and Industry

23 June 1978

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection

Too few of Britain's able young people who are now about to hang up their mortar boards are looking to a career in manufacturing industry. More are needed. On page 658 Les Huckfield explains what the Department of Industry and others are doing about it.

Trade and Industry

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Trade and Industry this week

STATISTICS

Economy on the move

Gross domestic product increased by nearly 1 per cent between the last quarter of 1977 and the first quarter this year, indicating that the economy may be picking up after a flat period.

The GDP figures for the first quarter, released by the Central Statistical Office on Tuesday, show that the industrial output contributed to just over half the increase. There were sharp rises in consumer spending, distribution, transport and communications.

Unemployment still falling

For the ninth successive month the level of unemployment has fallen – and the number of vacancies has risen.

Figures for mid-June released by the Department of Employment on Tuesday show a fall of 2200 in seasonally adjusted unemployment figures, excluding school leavers. In contrast, there was a rise of 40 000 in June last year.

For the first time in four years unemployment is lower than in the same month in the previous year.

Earnings jump in April

Average earnings of employees in all industries and services in Great Britain are estimated to have risen by about 12.5 per cent between April 1977 and April 1978 according to figures issued by the Department of Employment on Monday. This estimate is based on the new series of monthly index numbers of average earnings for the whole economy, introduced in January 1976, which is not seasonally adjusted but is broader based than the older series.

Over this 12-month period, average earnings in production and other industries covered by the older series, introduced in January 1963, increased by about 15 per cent. The provisional figure for April showed a 3.6 per cent rise – a big leap on previous months and the biggest increase since December 1974.

Increased overtime, back pay and productivity bonuses accounted for some of the sharp rise.

HOME

Toys: UK has splendid reputation – Williams

Britain is now one of the world's leading toy makers, said Alan Williams, Minister of State for Industry, on Tuesday (20 June).

He was speaking as guest of honour at the presentation of the 1978 International Trophy of L'Institut International de Promotion et de Prestige to Britain's largest toy firm, Dunbee-Combex-Marx.

Mr Williams said that last year the industry exported £115 million worth of toys – almost half of its entire output. Not only was this a record of which the whole industry can be proud, he continued, it was a record won mainly in the fiercely competitive markets of Europe and America – and even in the USSR.

The market demanded a continuous stream of best sellers. Britain's toy industry had a splendid reputation both at home and abroad for quality, reliability and safety. This was the foundation of its export success, he concluded.

De-inking project aids balance of payments

Balance of payments benefits for the UK of about £3 million per year will result from the use of a new de-inking plant at Reed's Aylesford Paper Mills said Secretary of State for Industry Eric Varley on 20 June.

Mr Varley, who opened the new plant, pointed out that newsprint from Aylesford would in future be made predominantly from waste paper rather than from virgin raw materials. There would be savings for the Reed paper group in the use of cheaper raw materials. There would also be significant savings for the country, as the waste paper will displace imported pulp.

The plant would allow the mill to use much more waste paper than at present, he said. It would make newsprint for Fleet Street and provincial newspapers. The waste paper used would be old newspapers, magazines and pamphlets, which would otherwise go into dustbins. So the project would increase the company's already considerable achievement in recycling, and would benefit the environment through a reduction in refuse disposal by municipal authorities. This was an excellent example of the logical use of secondary raw materials.

He explained that to encourage the industry to use more waste paper, the government had introduced the paper and board industry scheme in June 1976. His department was contributing over £1.1 million towards the cost of this de-inking plant under the scheme. Many other companies, all those who used waste paper to a significant extent, had received offers of assistance or had applications under appraisal. It was expected that all the £23 million made available would be spent. Assistance would cover the whole range of paper and board products. The scheme would help to increase the industry's recycling capacity by about 600 000 tonnes, a substantial increase on present waste consumption of just over 2 million tonnes. And there were still a few days left in which to apply for assistance with further projects.

CPRS to study effects of 'chip' technology

On the instructions of Prime Minister James Callaghan, the Central Policy Review Staff – the government's 'think tank' – is to take the lead in studying the social and economic implications of micro-electronic technology, 10 Downing Street announced in a statement on Monday (19 June). Microelectronics enables many thousands of electrical components to be incorporated on to a small 'chip' of silicon.

CPRS will act as a focus in Whitehall in dealing with the wider implications of microelectronic technology and its study will complement that already being carried out by a working party of the Advisory Council for Applied Research and Development under Sir James Menter. This working party is looking at the social, educational and manpower consequencies of new technologies generally. CPRS will ensure that the Menter proposals are energetically considered when they are published later this year. CPRS will be responsible for ensuring that all government departments concerned are fully aware of the nature of the problems and the range of possible solutions.

In the statement the Prime Minister said that the development of microelectronics was one of the most significant opportunities of the present time and it presented the country with a number of challenging issues.

'It will have the deepest significance in the 1980s for the way in which the skills of the British people are used, and I wish to ensure that within the present state of knowledge we

are fully aware of all the ramifications in reaching our conclusions on the social and economic consequences of this technology. There is a role for the government, as well as for industry, in ensuring that the full benefits are realised while minimising the adverse effects of the changes that will take place.'

Food and drink repricing ban

Repricing of articles of food and drink bearing price markings will be banned when proposals announced on Monday (19 June) become law in August.

Under the proposals, which were described by Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection Robert Maclennan, articles of food and drink which have been displayed for sale and marked with a price cannot subsequently be sold at a higher price. An exception is made for the withdrawal of special offers.

Mr Maclennan explained that shoppers were infuriated when they found articles with a higher-priced label stuck over a lower one for goods which had just been standing on the shelf. In some cases they even saw the staff sticking on the new labels, he said. 'The proposals which have just been circulated in a consultative document will help to stamp out this abuse, which is already contrary to the price code.'

The present powers under the price code will expire on 31 July. The proposed order, which would be introduced under section 2 of the Prices Act 1974, will ensure that food and drink cannot be relabelled after that time.

Consumer protection highest yet – Fraser

In the last year resources had risen by 15 per cent in real terms, 121 consumer advice centres served the country and, since 1 February this year, the small-print trap was a thing of the past whenever consumers were supplied with goods or services, said Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, John Fraser, in Cardiff on Tuesday.

By the summer, he told the annual conference of the Institute of Trading Standards Officers, there would be a new consumer safety act on the statute book, and, more than ever before, consumer credit was amenable to control and the elimination of unfair and misleading practices.

Allaying any fears that central government might wish to make a takeover bid for the trading standards service, Mr Fraser said that the present system must be made to work as well as possible and the virtues of local accountability must be married with a consistent and integrated approach to common problems.

'Standards of inspection must be reasonably consistent, he explained. Local accountability meant that each would have to make its own judgements about priorities which reflected local circumstances, but, within the boundaries of local judgement, the national company needed the same treatment at Merthyr and Merseyside, at Lambeth and Lothian. The consumer too expected and deserved to receive an equal standard of protection wherever he or she lived and shopped.

Mr Fraser also said that prosecution policy should be reasonably consistent. 'Interpretation of the law although ultimately a matter for the courts does guide the initiation of prosecutions. Consultations should take place within the profession and with my department if disparities emerge.' He said that consideration should always be given to whether a warning or advice may be just as effective as a prosecution.

On specialist facilities, he said these would have to be planned and shared between authorities. 'Neither government nor local authorities can afford to provide every trading standards department with every facility. Specialist equipment must be available not by luck but by planning and judgement.'

Finally, Mr Fraser explained that the statistical control system for prepacks would require the meshing of the work of trading standards officers, both to agree the control system and to ensure that complaints and doubts at the counter or checkout were despatched to the point-of-packing authority.

Management by maintenance study published

A report of the first detailed comparison of maintenance costs for industrial firms, *Management by Maintenance Ratios*, was published by the Department of Industry on 20 June. The report contains the results of a pilot comparison in three industries by the Centre for Interim Comparison. The survey enabled managers in more than 50 firms to identify their maintenance costs, discover the reasons for the differences between them, and to take the necessary action to correct the weaknesses.

The three groups covered were engineering firms, commerical vehicle operators, and a general group from a variety of industries. The 42 firms in the engineering and general groups ranged from 200 to 2500 employees and had a combined maintenance staff of 6000 and a total sales revenue of over £1,000 million.

The survey showed that on average every £100 worth of machinery cost £13.8 a year to maintain. Approximately 90 per cent of the maintenance performed was on plant and machinery rather than buildings. Corrective work took 34 per cent of employees time, emergency work 20 per cent and planned maintenance work only 19 per cent.

The Centre for Interfirm Comparison is now launching a new series of comparisons in conjunction with the National Terotechnology Centre which will enable any company to find out how its maintenance costs compare with those of other firms in several industrial sectors. Full details of how the comparison operates and the cost of joining can be obtained from: H. W. Palmer, The Centre for Interfirm Comparison, 25 Bloomsbury Square, London WC1A 2PJ, tel. 01-637 8406. Copies of the report *Management by Maintenance Ratios* is available free from: National Terotechnology Centre, Cleeve Road, Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 7SA, tel. Leatherhead 78242.

EUROPE

Spanish EEC minister in UK

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for trade, with Mr Calvo Sotelo, Spanish minister for European affairs, on Tuesday (20 June). Mr Sotelo was in the UK at the invitation of Frank Judd, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, to discuss Spanish accession to the EEC.

OVERSEAS

Hart heads delegation to Caribbean aid meeting

Judith Hart, Minister for Overseas Development, left London on Monday (19 June) to head the UK delegation at the inaugural meeting of the Caribbean group for co-operation in economic development which is meeting under World Bank auspices in Washington. This is the follow-up to a preliminary conference of Caribbean countries and interested donors held last December.

At this first plenary session, due to end tomorrow (24 June), the group is discussing a number of issues affecting the economic development of the region and sub-groups will be convened to examine, in more detail, the problems of individual countries.

It is expected that the meeting will result in a significant amount of new aid for the region.

To all Chairmen and Managing Directors

The following executives are seeking to further their careers within fields where proven experience counts and is rewarded accordingly

FINANCE

1. **Treasurer.** ACA. Fluent German, good French. A strong technical accountant with three years' treasury experience in major group – borrowings exceeding £300 million. Good city and European experience. Wishes to improve remuneration and widen experience, location flexible. **Age 29 Salary £6,500**

2. **Finance Director.** FCCA. Good French. With executive management experience of international manufacturing company, turnover £10 million, and central staff experience in major international group, turnover £250 million +. Seeks improve career development potential in a more entrepreneurial environment. **Age 31 Salary £11,000+**

3. **Director Finance/Operations.** MA(Oxon) Barrister-at-Law, M. Inst PM AICS. Top level financial and administrative experience in oil industry and government committees at international levels. Seeks career development in UK, Europe or Scandinavia. A high flyer. **Age 32 Salary £15,000+**

4. **Financial Co-ordinator.** BCom, ACA. Some Spanish and sound international experience in FMCG and Service industries especially in Middle East and South America. Seeks greater scope and remuneration probably outside UK. **Age 32 Salary £8,500+**

5. **Life and Pensions Manager.** APMI. An energetic and successful higher flyer with good knowledge of Europe and UK practices. Seeking greater flexibility and challenge leading to capital growth – probably in smaller company. **Age 31 Salary circa £20,000**

6. **Group Secretary/Chief Accountant.** FCIS. With international holding company experience in both consumer goods and steel products. **Age 33 Salary £8,000+**

7. **Financial Manager.** BCom (1st Class) ACA. Impressive technical accountant with good knowledge of industry, commerce and financial services. Including investigations and computer audits. Seeks career development and improved remuneration. **Age 33 Salary £12,000**

8. **Head of Corporate Planning.** FCA. A dedicated professional accountant with considerable international experience of the manufacturing and process industries. Promotion blockage. Seeks a move to F/D of a substantial industrial group. **Age 38 Salary £13,000**

9. **Group F/D.** FCA. Exceptional large retail group financial management experience covering UK and North America. Especially strong in DP management techniques. **Age 38 Salary £12,000+**

10. **International Financial Manager.** FCMA. A tough professional with impressive career in major European manufacturing groups. Promotion blockage. Seeks F/D appointment in Europe, North America or Australasia. **Age 39 Salary circa £13,000**

11. **Finance Director.** MA (Econ and Statistics) MBA. Fluent German, Dutch, Italian, good French. Experience covers all fields of finance, including investment banking. Promotion blockage. A highflyer. Seeking a change to more dynamic company. **Age 39 Salary circa £25,000**

12. **Group F/D.** MA (Cantab) FCMA, CEng, MICE, MIMC. Good French. An expert in establishing large group financial systems and controls. Following broken promises he seeks a move to another senior financial management role. **Age 44 Salary £12,500**

MARKETING

13. **Export Saleswoman.** MA (Hons). Fluent German and French with an excellent knowledge of the wholesale and retail carpet markets in Germany, France, Italy and Scandinavia. Enjoys travel, flexible as to product. **Age 24 Salary £5,000**

14. **Systems Analyst/Export Sales.** BA (Hons) MSc management studies. Bilingual German, good French. A good knowledge of the manufacturing jewel trade including trade fairs. **Age 25 Salary £5,000**

15. **Area Manager.** BA (Hons). Fluent French and German. Seven years' experience in electrical products, rubber goods and carpets especially in UK, Canada and EEC. Seeks improved career potential, location flexible. **Age 29 Salary £8,000**

16. **Export Manager.** MA (Hons) Cantab. Fluent French, German, some Italian and Russian. Successful record in FMCG, especially foods. P & G trained. A man of high potential seeking a career development. **Age 29 Salary £8,500+**

17. **Export Salesman.** M. Inst. Experienced. Successful record in sales of chemicals, pharmaceuticals, scientific instruments and laboratory equipment, especially in Middle East and Europe. Ambitious to develop career and remuneration level. **Age 31 Salary £6,500+**

18. **Market Manager.** BA (Hons) Economics M. Inst. MKT. Some French and German. A dedicated marketing man in FMCG especially in food and tobacco. Promotion and salary blockage. **Age 30 Salary £7,200**

19. **Export Marketing/Sales Manager.** Fluent German and French, some Polish. Has sound knowledge of East European countries and Yugoslavia and of pumps, chemicals and security systems. A good business analyst who wishes to grow. **Age 36 Salary £8,000**

20. **Export Sales Manager.** BSc (Hons) Chem. Bilingual French. Highly successful sales of chemicals, metals and process plant especially to France. An outstanding performer of complete integrity. **Age 33 Salary £10,000**

21. **Marketing/Production Director.** BSc. Chem. Eng. With a background in chemistry and engineering currently responsible for production and sales of £30 million power cables. Returning to UK to seek position leading into general management. **Age 36 Salary £10,000+**

22. **Marketing Director.** BA. Fluent German, French, Swiss German. Holds Swiss 'C' permit. Most effective in durables-consumer products and the leisure industry. Victim of an American company's withdrawal from Europe. **Age 37 Salary £15,000**

23. **Marketing Manager.** MA, LLB, Dip BA. Good French. A practical entrepreneur with very sound general trading experience in large international groups. This includes wholesale, retail and merchant banking experience. **Age 35 Salary £10,000+**

24. **Group Sales Director.** BA. Good Swedish, some French. Highly experienced in mechanical handling and automotive products, including fleet sales and franchises especially internationally. **Age 39 Salary negotiable circa £14,000**

GENERAL MANAGEMENT

25. **Civil Engineer.** HNC Civil and Struct. Eng. Setting out and design experience with large division of major industrial group as well as two years' building experience. Ambitions to develop his career more rapidly overseas. **Age 22 Salary £5,000+**

26. **Manager Human Resources.** BSc. MSc. Psychology with practical industrial training experience of large group. Sales teams as well as consultancy. Seeks a tough assignment with large industrial group. **Age 28 Salary £6,500+**

27. **Site Manager.** Some Arabic. An engineer with successful overseas administration, recruitment and management experience in oil field, tanker group and light mechanical engineering. Seeking further overseas appointment. **Age 33 Salary circa £10,000**

28. **Expediting Engineer.** BSc Metallurgy (Hons). Good French. A materials technologist in metals and plastic engineering with liaison experience in institutional bodies in the EEC. Promotion blockage seeking live management responsibility. **Age 38 Salary £7,000**

29. **Group Personnel and Training.** BA (Hons), FIPM. Postive and very likeable with considerable IR and training experience in large distribution and wholesale group (60 outlets). Seeking career development move and increased remuneration. **Age 37 Salary £8,000**

30. **Head of D.P./Project Leader.** An MBCS with 13 years' experience of NCR, ICL, IBM, over a wide range of trade and industrial applications. Newly returned from Africa and seeking new opportunity, ideally UK based. **Aged 38 Salary £8,000**

31. **Retail/Financial Manager/Trader.** CA. After 13 years' successful financial management in food distribution, cash and carry and automotive selling he has had three years retail management in Middle East. Wishes to make more permanent career move. Location flexible. **Age 41 Salary circa £15,000**

32. **General Manager.** BSc (Chem), FIWM. Good French. Highly professional and wide range of production experience in toiletries, cosmetics, agro chemicals and pharmaceuticals in both Europe and Africa. Moving because of promotion blockage and low remuneration. **Age 47 Salary £8,000**

33. **Technical Director.** BA (Chem) Oxon, BSc, D. Phil metal physics. A top level General/Technical Director. Fluent French, German, Italian, Russian, with wide R & D experience in electronics, plastics, steel who is dedicated to profitable commercial development at conglomerate or government level. **Age 45 Salary circa £18,000**

34. **General Manager.** ACII. A company doctor in general business and all forms of insurance and re-insurance, UK and overseas. He has established successful new subsidiaries, but seeks a fresh long-term commitment. **Age 39 Salary circa £15,000**

35. **Chief Executive.** F Bldg. With 36 years' highly successful experience in building and construction large projects worldwide, operating in both the public and private sectors. Practically valuable financial and industrial relations expertise. **Age 51 Salary £15,000+**

36. **General/Financial Manager.** MBA (Finance) 1st class. Good French, Spanish, Portuguese. Experience in both executive and consultancy roles in large multinationals (semi-conductors and D.P. services). A high flyer seeking a new career opportunity. **Age 41 Salary circa $50,000**

NOTES
(i) All the above executives have been interviewed by us and we consider them to be high quality material in their particular range – there are several others whom space precludes.

(ii) If you require an executive of similar capability please contact me.

(iii) If you yourself feel that you match these standards and might benefit from a new opportunity please contact me in the strictest confidence and without any obligation.

Robin R. Wheatley

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COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR (DESIGNATE)

Mr P H Woodward, TD, BSc, CEng, FIEE, Commercial Director, is to retire at his request on 31 March 1979 after a long and distinguished career in the Industry, sixteen years of which have been with the London Electricity Board.

The Board wish to appoint a Commercial Director (Designate) to take office in the late summer in order to give adequate time for the transfer of responsibilities.

The Commercial Director is a member of the top team of the Board, responsible for the formulation and application of Commercial policies. The successful candidate must have a good overall business ability to be able to give guidance on all marketing matters to an organisation with 1.8 million consumers. Experience of a similar consumer-orientated organisation would be helpful and a flair for Commercial work is a necessary requirement.

The commencing salary will be not less than £12,000 per annum plus the appropriate London Weighting.

Letters of application, with career details should be sent to the: Personnel Director, LONDON ELECTRICITY BOARD, 46 New Broad Street, London EC2M 1LS, quoting reference TI/2923/678 to arrive not later than 30 June 1978.

(The above post is open to male and female applicants).

LEB

MARKETING MANAGER

Circa £10,000 + Car

FINTEL a newly formed company, owned jointly by Financial Times and Extel is seeking a dynamic manager to develop and market business information services on an international basis.

Initially, the company is concentrating its efforts upon developing a data-base for distribution via Prestel, the Post Office viewdata system. However, the longer term aim is to establish a range of data-base products to service a variety of business needs. Experience therefore in at least three of the following fields is essential:

- **electronically distributed information services**
- **specialist business publishing**
- **European and U.S. markets**
- **data-base services**
- **computer/communications**
- **consultancy in a marketing role**

The successful candidate, who would report directly to the Managing Director, is likely to be in his or her thirties with a degree from a British or foreign university or business school. There are good prospects for later selection to a board appointment.

Please apply in writing giving full details of your career to date, to:

Mr. B. Botten, Managing Director
FINTEL LIMITED
1 Pudding Lane, London
EC3R 8AA

NATIONAL FILM FINANCE CORPORATION

Managing Director

• TO succeed Sir John Terry, who retires at the end of the year. The Corporation assists film production in the UK through the provision of loans.

• THE role involves directing a small staff in London to ensure effective advice and fruitful financing in this field.

• THE requirement is for financial or legal skills, and an individual with some knowledge of the film industry is strongly preferred.

• THE salary for this appointment is £12,140.

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to A. Longland
as adviser to the Corporation.

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Home news

Dell identifies common ground in industrial democracy debate

There was already much agreement and common ground in the debate on industrial democracy, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, told a conference organised by the Industrial Society on 13 June in London. He believed that the government's proposals went a very long way towards a generally acceptable statement of the means to be adopted, and that early legislation commanding general support would prove possible.

The common ground, Mr Dell said, extended to acceptance of: the need for a system of industrial democracy consistent with and contributing to the efficient and successful running of industry; the rights of those who work in industry and who invest their talents in it to be included in the decision-making; the need for a flexible system laying emphasis on voluntary co-operation; and the role of trades unions in representing their members in the development of participation.

'There is now wide agreement on the need for legislation, although the precise scope of that legislation is still the subject of debate. What is clear is that it would not be acceptable to make employee's rights to participate in decision-making rely entirely on the enlightenment and goodwill of their employers. Encouraging though the recent progress made in the setting up of voluntary arrangements has been it is still far from sufficient to render legislation unnecessary,' he added.

Employees' directors, he said, would participate in, and share responsibility for decisions and act as channel of communication between employer and employee. This communication of information was an essential part of existing industrial relations legislation. The development of industrial democracy and the appointment of employee directors would add a new dimension to this in a way which should be of benefit to workforce and management alike.

He predicted that experience would show that as in other countries, it would be the presence of employee directors that would matter and not their number.

May price index confirms inflation prediction

Referring to the fall to 7.7 per cent in the retail price index published on 16 June, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection Roy Hattersley said it confirmed his 11 June prediction that the inflation rate would settle and remain at or about 7.9 per cent for the rest of the year. In some months there would be minor falls, he said, and in other months there would be minor increases.

'Next year' he added, 'our target must be a further reduction towards the figures enjoyed by our competitors.' The government would continue with the economic policies which had proved successful in controlling inflation in 1978. 'With a further year of responsible wage negotiations we can produce the same sort of progress in 1979 as we made this year.'

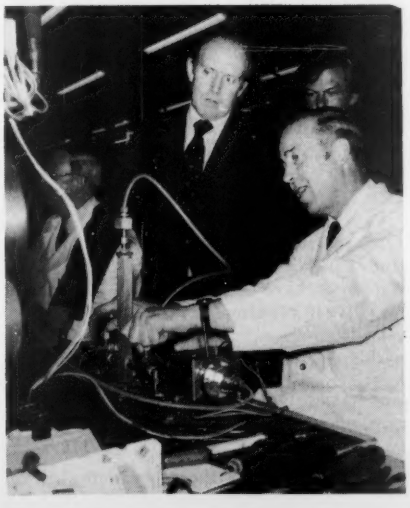
Details are on page 695.

Varley opens new London factory for GEC

A new factory in south London for Londex, a GEC subsidiary supplying a range of specialised electrical and electronic controls and systems for industry was opened by Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, on 13 June. The £1.3 million purpose-built factory at Penge will house the entire company employing 400 people under one roof and will replace five existing sites located in nearby residential areas.

Referring to the electrical engineering industry, which employs over 740 000 people and last year produced goods worth around £7,400 million, Mr Varley said that exports were valued at over £3,000 million and the trade balance in these products was in the UK's favour by over £500 million. Londex and the other companies in the GEC group had made a highly significant contribution to these efforts. In the year ending March 1977, the group's exports were up by 29 per cent on the previous year.

John Drew shows secretary of state Eric Varley how components are tested at the new Londex factory. Looking on is Martin Jay, the company's managing director.



An industry which was as important as the electrical engineering industry said Mr Varley, also clearly had a vital role to play in the government's Industrial Strategy. Recognising the need to stimulate investment and expansion in manufacturing industries the government offered aid through various schemes. Financial help was available for regional development as well as through the selective financial assistance schemes.

A number of companies in the industry, including GEC, had benefited under the various financial assistance schemes aimed at encouraging industrial investment generally and increasing production and efficiency. In recent years, the government had made available over £75 million worth of assistance to the electrical engineering industries in support of investment projects valued at over £480 million.

'The modernisation and re-equipping of our manufacturing industry is at the very heart of the Industrial Strategy, for the nation's future prosperity depends on it,' said Mr Varley.

New items just introduced by the company are a range of level controls capable of detecting both liquids and solids in tanks or silos and a low-cost photo-electric detector incorporating a time delay feature. In the near future the company plans to manufacture a new microcomputer-based fault-warning annunciator to monitor operating conditions in process plants.

Lever urges deployment of reserves in trade

Countries who are competitive and successful must ensure that additions to their reserves don't end up as dangerous misers' hoards but are effectively deployed in the world's trading system. Harold Lever, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster made this point to the London Chamber of Commerce at the Guildhall on 13 June.

Otherwise, Mr Lever continued, they would impose economic constraints on other countries who were their customers and trading partners. For this was the finance necessary to give countries the time to adjust their deficits at a pace and by means that avoid injury to themselves and to the trading prospects of the more competitive countries. The alternative was a retreat into unilateralism and increasing restrictions on trade. Such a retreat was itself a confession of an inability to use to the full the opportunities for wealth creation in the world.

At home attitudes must be brought up to date. In a world of accelerating structural change businessmen must be alert and flexible to meet today's needs and tomorrow's needs, not only those of yesterday. He thought that smaller businesses had a crucial part to play in this. Far from being the gas mantle manufac-

turers in an electrically-lit world, small businesses were in fact a great source of decentralised industrial energies, alert to the changing needs of world markets and sufficiently flexible to be able to meet them. Mr Lever said that he had been very happy over the last nine months to be associated with the government's moves to help and encourage the businessman in the vital small business sector.

NI surcharge: little effect on jobs, investment or trade – Healey

Effects of the extra 2½ per cent National Insurance surcharge (NIS) on jobs, prices, investment and trade were the subject of speech by Chancellor of the Exchequer Denis Healey at the annual conference of the National Association of Local Government Officers in Brighton on 13 June.

He pointed out that even after this increase Britain would be getting less of her revenue from employers' social security contributions or payroll taxes than any of her major competitors in Europe. Germany would be getting significantly more and France and Italy more than twice as much.

If employers passed the 2½ per cent surcharge on in prices this would take time. It would scarcely affect prices at all this year and raise them only ¾ per cent by the end of next year. In that case it would have next to no effect on jobs, investment or trade.

The surcharge in itself would, of course, reduce company liquidity in the short run. But the latest survey of the 200 largest companies showed that their liquidity increased by well over £1 billion in the six months before the budget in spite of the 2 per cent NIS which was introduced in April 1977.

Since the surcharge had first started 15 months ago, inflation had not risen. It had fallen by over half. The balance of payments had not been worse than was then predicted. It has been better, by £700 million. Unemployment had fallen steadily since last September. And, Mr Healey pointed out, private manufacturing investment had risen 13 per cent last year, faster than in most of the countries which competed with the UK.

Eighth inward investment seminar held in Brussels

To encourage further Belgian investment in British manufacturing industry, the Department of Industry held an inward investment seminar in Brussels on 13 June. The seminar 'The Investment Path to the British Market' was organised in co-operation with the Kredietbank. It was the eighth in a series of seminars held throughout Europe this year.

Speakers included Alec Jones, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Welsh Office; Joe Mills, northern regional secretary, Transport and General Workers' Union; and Mr E. R. Jolley of the Northern Ireland Department of Commerce. Dr Meileir of Plant Location International spoke on a consultant's view of the UK and Mr G. Ahrens about Agfa Gevaert's experience in the UK.

Small firms counselling service launched in London and south-east

The Small Firms Counselling Service has now been extended to the London and south-east region and will be operating in all areas of England by the end of the year.

Launching the regional service in London on 15 June, Bob Cryer, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, who has special responsibility for small firms in the Department of Industry, said that the decision to extend the service was a reflection of the government's recognition of the value of small firms to the economy. The scheme was a practical demonstration of the government's support for small firms.

In the London and south-east region the experience of the large number of inquiries handled by the Small Firms Information Centre had shown that many firms were not always aware of their real problems. Often because of the lack of broadly based experiences and skill in small enterprises where the owner/manager had to perform a wide range of functions himself. He pointed out that the 19 counsellors engaged in the area all had broad senior management experience. Others had expertise in production, marketing and financial management. Their background of hard commercial experience was of great benefit in diagnosing the problems of small businesses and in passing on the valuable experience they had gained.

The service will cover Greater London, east-Sussex, Kent, Surrey, Hampshire and west-Sussex and will operate from the Small Firms Information Centre in Victoria through area counselling offices in Barking, Eastbourne, London (Victoria), Maidstone, Portsmouth, Southall, Sutton and Wood Green.

Since the scheme was established in the south-west in October 1976, more than 1000 cases have been handled there. The service has since been extended to the northern, north-west, west-Midlands and Yorkshire and Humberside regions and will cover the whole of England towards the end of 1978 when offices in the eastern and east-Midlands regions will be operating.

Schooled for success

Eight new small firms, ranging from an electronics business to a manufacturer of textured wallpaper, have been set up as a result of an initiative in retraining by the Manpower Services Commission. Such has been the success of the pilot self-employment programme, run by the commission's training services division with the Manchester Business School, that further courses are now going ahead elsewhere.

The expansion of the programme will be modest, say the MSC. The training is expensive. But the success rate at Manchester is considered sufficient to justify doubling the effort, with another course at Durham Business School (just started) and a specialised hotel, catering and tourism project at Sundridge Park, South-East London, to begin in the autumn.

The next step is to encourage the formation of more family businesses. A course has been run in conjunction with the Yorkshire regional management centre for ICI at Harrogate, and other pilot courses in this field are planned elsewhere in the country later this year.

The training services division of MSC forsee that technological advances will permanently cut the formerly massive labour requirements of large companies. In helping people displaced by technology to set up and run their own businesses, with the hope that they will employ others, the MSC aims to make a useful and economically relevant contribution to the reduction of unemployment.

Shell supports small firms development

Shell (UK) Ltd are supporting efforts at Durham University Business School to help small businesses get started in the north-east. Funds have been provided for research support to the staff of the New Enterprise Development Project – a group of experienced managers based in the Small Business Centre at Durham University Business School. This team is undertaking a variety of activities designed to increase awareness of opportunities for small firms development in the region. In this it works closely with Enterprise North and with the Department of Industry Small Firms Information Centre.

'The main aim of the Project is to give every possible support to those who are inclined to establish their own company,' said Allan Gibb, director of Durham University Business School's Small Business Centre. 'We can help them develop their idea, look more closely at the production, financial and marketing aspects of their proposal and ensure that they get the maximum out of their meetings with the Enterprise North voluntary panels of advisors in the region.'

New confidence as footwear imports decline

Footwear imports have already declined by 15 per cent in the first quarter of this year, because of the restrictions imposed on imports from Taiwan and because of surveillance licensing, Minister of State for Industry, Alan Williams told the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation in London on 14 June. He pointed out that at the same time exports had risen.

The government fully recognised the need for continued vigilance over imports and, as the industry knew, remained ready to consider taking up cases of serious disruption of the UK market with the commission. Mr Williams

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then went on to refer to the footwear industry scheme, introduced as a result of the recommendations of the study group, which presented their report to the government in April 1977.

He said that the report of the footwear industry study steering group was a comprehensive and valuable document, which made positive recommendations aimed at solving many of the problems facing the industry. He had had detailed discussions with the industry about these recommendations and on 1 April announced a £4.5 million scheme under section 8 of the industry act to encourage improvements in productivity and efficiency. There had been a very encouraging response: 37 formal applications had been received and a further 75 inquiries. These could involve total investment of some £9 million. He felt sure that this initial response was indicative of a new degree of confidence in the industry.

Government to go ahead with London centre

Plans to build an international conference centre on a derelict site opposite Westminster Abbey are to go ahead, Peter Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment announced on 12 June. Commenting on this government decision, Mr Shore said that he was confident that the building would be a major asset for London offering the modern conference facilities needed for large conferences – an important feature in international relations.

Mr Shore explained that these conferences had special requirements of access, layout and security which meant that the ordinary commercial facilities for conferences and conventions were not suitable. He said that London lacked the type of accommodation needed. Last year's important series of conferences connected with the UK presidency of the EEC, Nato and the commonwealth heads of governments conference were held in Lancaster House. Whilst these arrangements were fairly satisfactory, they were necessarily of an ad hoc nature and provided only a temporary substitute for permanent purpose-built facilities.

The new centre is intended for intergovernmental conferences but parts of the building will also be available for use by outside bodies such as the London based international commodity organisations.

There will be a theatre-type auditorium for up to 1000 with a gallery for an additional 200. Five 'round table' conference rooms of varying size are planned for, all with full interpretation and ancillary facilities. Comprehensive facilities for press, TV and radio will be provided.

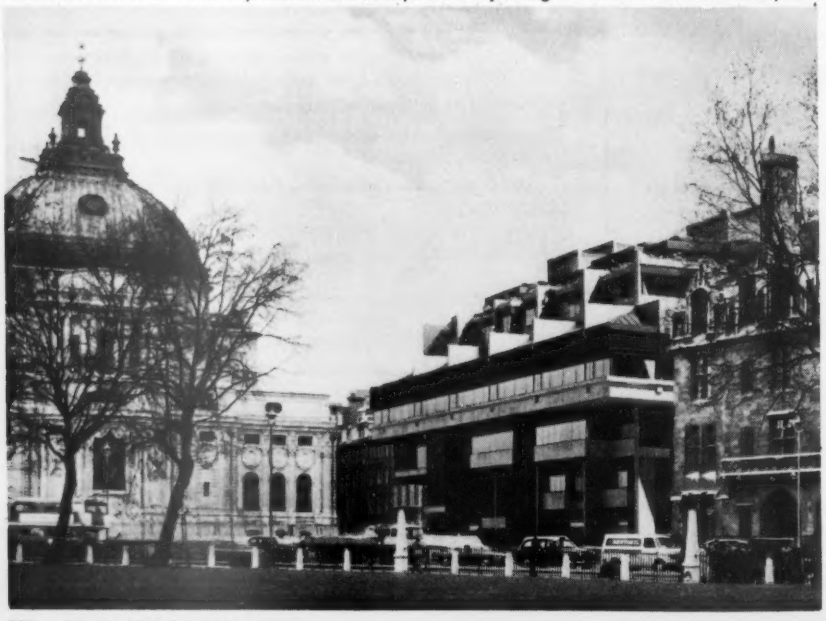
Work on the foundations is expected to begin at the end of 1979 or early in 1980, following an archaeological dig, and the building completed by the mid-1980s. Estimated cost is some £15¼ million including furnishings and equipment.

DITB allocate grants for school-leavers

Grants of £1,210 per head are to be made available to encourage the employment and training of extra school-leavers into retailing, mail order and wholesaling by the Distributive Industry Training Board (DITB) in conjunction with the Manpower Services Commission.

Employers in the distributive industry can qualify for £1,210 for each youngster they employ between 1 June this year and 31 May 1979, provided certain conditions are met. The new recruits must be aged 19 or under and they must be recruited into full-time occupations and given planned training or day-release. Employers must also satisfy a trainee/qualified staff ratio, full details of which are given in a leaflet which is being sent to all distributive companies liable to pay a training levy to the DITB.

London's new international conference centre is to be sited between Central Hall (left) and Middlesex Guildhall. This impression shows a preliminary design for the £15¼ million complex.



New factory occupied at Lancaster . . .

Wilson Filters Ltd has occupied advance factory terrace unit premises of 675 m² built by the English Industrial Estates Corporation on the department's White Lund Estate at Lancaster.

Wilson Filters Ltd is a newly formed company who will manufacture glass fibre air filters for a wide range of industry. The company, with the acquisition of these premises and a good order book, hopes to employ some 50 people over the next year or so.

. . . and work starts on factory at Netherton

Work has started on the construction of an advance factory of about 1350 m² for the Department of Industry on the department's site at Netherton, Bootle, Merseyside. The premises should be ready for occupation in December 1978.

Inquiries for lease to: Mr P. R. Davidson, Department of Industry, North-west Region, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA, tel. 061-236 2171.

. . . and at Ellesmere Port

Work has also started on the construction of an advance factory of about 900 m² for the Department of Industry on the department's site at Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. The premises should be ready for occupation in December 1978. Inquiries for lease to: Mr P. R. Davidson, Department of Industry, North-west Region, Sunley Building, Piccadilly Plaza, Manchester M1 4BA, tel. 061-236 2171.

Notification of hazardous installations proposed

Statutory notification of potentially hazardous installations to the Health and Safety Executive is proposed in draft regulations published on 16 June by the Health and Safety Commission in a consultative document *Draft Hazardous Installations (Notification and Survey) Regulations*, HMSO, 50p.

The proposed regulations arise from the first report of the advisory committee on major hazards. *Advisory Committee on Major Hazards – First Report*, HMSO, £1.00. The proposal would enable the Health and Safety Executive (the commission's operational arm) for the first time to acquire information about the activities of installations holding signifi-

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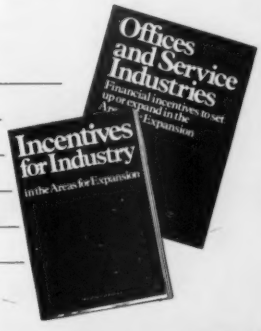
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cant quantities of specified hazardous substances and to build up a complete picture of the number of potentially hazardous installations in Britain. The regulations would apply to installations, whether existing or proposed, where specified quantities of the substances concerned are stored, manufactured, processed or used. These provisions would also include the transfer of substances by pipeline and handling operations in the course of road, rail or sea transport.

The proposed regulations set out the substances concerned, the quantities held which would call for notification, and the details of what would be included in the notification.

On the premises where there are specified substances in quantities 10 times the notifiable level, a hazard survey would be required. This would include such details as diagrams of any plant containing more than the notifiable quantity of any hazardous substance; factors that could cause a catastrophic release of energy or of the substance notified and the measures taken to prevent or control this; factors that could cause a smaller but continuing release of the substances notified; and the measures taken to prevent or control such releases.

The hazard survey and any more detailed assessment, which may be called for in circumstances of exceptional risk, would enable the executive to identify those installations which could pose a threat to safety, and also to consider any enforcement action that might be necessary.

The proposed regulations would not apply to any notifiable activities at sites licensed under the Explosives Act 1875; to any vehicle, vessel, aircraft or hovercraft which is being used for transporting the substances, nor to any radio-active substance. A draft guidance note, which is part of the document, sets out the framework for the carrying out of hazard surveys.

Comments on the consultative document should be sent to Mr D. R. Askew, Hazardous Substances Division, Health and Safety Executive, Baynards House, 1 Chepstow Place, London W2 4TF by 30 September 1978.

Canvey Island – improvement to installations would cut risk

Risks to the people living on and around Canvey Island from existing and proposed industrial activities are the subject of a report published by the Health and Safety Executive on 20 June. The report follows an investigation which began in April 1976 and is described by the executive as unique, the first of its kind in the UK and probably in the world finds that the picture that emerges should not cause fear and worry amongst people living in the area. The most likely outcome is that nothing should happen in these installations which will hurt anyone outside them.

However, the report adds that steps can and should be taken to further reduce the chances of major accidents in the installations. If all the recommendations made in the report are carried out, even though additional refineries were authorised, the risk from the industrial activities in the area would be substantially reduced, it says.

The report *Canvey: An investigation of Potential Hazards from operations in the Canvey/Thurrock area;* Part One: *A summary by the Health and Safety Executive*, Part Two: *Report of the Investigating Team*. Part one is available from HMSO price £1; also available are parts one and two together, price £10. Part one has been prepared by the Health and Safety Executive as a summary of the investigation, its main results, and suggested action to ensure improvements. Part two, together with its many appendices, is the detailed technical report of the investigating team, and is based on information about the existing and proposed installations in the area known to the team up to 31 December 1977. The investigation was carried out by a small team of experts mainly from the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority's Safety and Reliability Directorate.

The executive's report asks for improvements both to existing plant and proposed installations which would substantially reduce the chances of a major accident or minimise the consequences should one occur. The necessary expenditure by the operators is reasonable in relation to the substantial reduction in risk which would be secured, it says. Work has already started on implementing some of the recommendations, with inspectors putting the improvements to the firms concerned. They will, if necessary, use their enforcement powers to require the improvements.

Further work needs to be carried out for there remain some uncertainties in the assessment the report points out. Some of the issues raised by the investigation have national if not international implications. The expertise of no less than 30 engineers, chemists and other specialists had been utilised at various stages of the appraisal and the cost of the investigation was about £400,000.

Proposals seek to reduce road bridge accidents

William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, is to consult interested organisations on proposals for new regulations designed to reduce the risk of bridges over roads being damaged by tall vehicles and lorries with high loads. The proposed regulations are designed to ensure that drivers know the height of their lorries by making it obligatory for a notice showing the overall height (including load) to be placed in the cab of certain types of lorries more than 12 ft (3.7 m) high.

The vehicles to which the regulations would apply are those known to be most likely to cause the most damage to bridges viz: mobile civil engineering plant, vehicles carrying such plant, and lorries carrying skips or containers. It is proposed that the new requirement should come into effect early next year. The notice in the cab would show the height in feet and inches, and be located within the driver's sight so that he can easily check the height against headroom shown on road signs.

The department on 16 June issued a circular to local highway authorities setting out measures which can be taken to minimise accident

risks at low bridges, particularly railway bridges. Authorities have been reminded of the vital importance of adequate advance warning and diversionary signs; and they have been asked, in co-operation with British Rail and London Transport, to develop a programme of action at priority sites to reduce the risk of damage by vehicles to bridges. In addition to adequate signing, removal of obscuring foliage and distracting advertisements would make warning signs more eye-catching and low bridges more conspicuous and minor road improvements could make it easier to negotiate them. Authorities have also been asked to extend the practice of showing headroom in metric as well as imperial units where roads are used extensively by foreign vehicles.

The department is carrying out two trials. At selected main road sites infra-red height detectors will be installed and linked to signs which require over-height vehicles to divert. At other sites, the effect of mandatory height restriction orders and signs in place of the normal advisory signs will be monitored. If the trials are successful, the measures will be adopted more generally.

Heavy goods vehicle test fees increased

Regulations – The Goods Vehicles (Plating and Testing) (Amendment) Regulations 1978. SI No. 867, HMSO 10p – to increase from 1 July the fees for first examinations, periodical tests and re-tests of goods vehicles at the Department of Transports heavy goods vehicle testing stations were laid before parliament on 16 June by Secretary of State for Transport William Rodgers. The fees for re-examination of vehicles in connection with changes in plate weights and for the replacement of lost or defaced documents will also be increased.

The fees for first examinations and periodical tests are to be increased to £12.50 from £11 for motor vehicles and £7 from £6.50 for trailers. The new charge for reduced-fee re-tests will be £7 from £6.50 for motor vehicles and £4.50 from £4 for trailers and that for a re-examination in connection with a change in plated weight will be £6 from £5 in all cases. From 1 July, all applications for testing station appointments must be accompanied by the correct new fee. The new fee for a replacement goods vehicle test certificate or a ministry test date disc will be £1, currently 50p.

Insurance business strengthens in 1977

The British insurance industry's position was stronger at the end of 1977 than for some years past. This was the finding of the Department of Trade in its annual report on insurance business, published on 13 June. The report, published by HMSO, price £1.75, says that the improvement in the position of sterling during the year, the fall in interest rates and in the rate of inflation, together with the return of share prices to 1973's levels all contributed to the industry's good health.

The report contains information, not only on the exercise of the department's powers, but on its other activities in the insurance field in 1977. This includes negotiation and implementation of EEC directives, parliamentary announcements, changes in membership of the Policyholders' Protection Board and the secretary of state's panel of insurance advisers, the Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act 1977 and the department's consideration of the control of insurance agents and compulsory insurance against liability for oil pollution damage.

The department did not find it necessary to intervene in 1977 as frequently as in other recent years, the report discloses. Other than with newly-authorised companies or where change of control had occurred the powers of intervention in sections 29 to 37 of the Insurance Companies Act were used on 27 occasions compared with 38 in 1976. Similarly, the number of companies which were persuaded to take remedial action on a non-statutory basis fell from 57 in 1976 to 48 in 1977.

During the year the department brought into operation the first stage of a computerised system designed to improve still further its supervision of the industry. This involves claims frequency and settlement analyses being processed to assist the department to assess the provisions companies make for outstanding claims in respect of general business.

At the end of 1977 there were 801 companies authorised to carry on insurance business in Great Britain including 18 authorised for the first time during the year.

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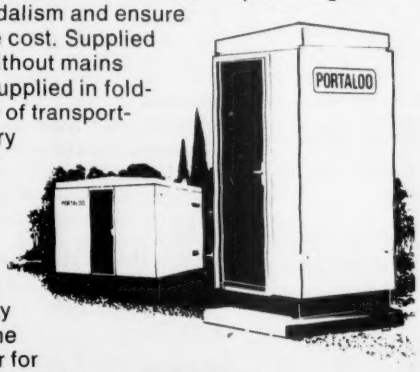

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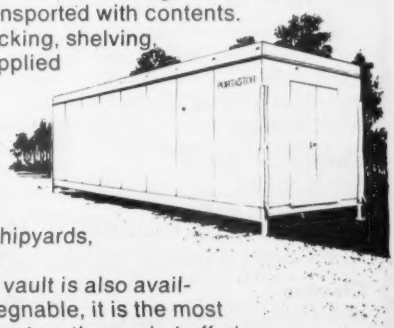

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scheduled insurance premiums has since 1973 rested with the Department of Trade. Under the system in operation during 1977 the leading motor companies, accounting for 70 per cent of the market, were required to seek prior approval; all other companies were required to give notice of increases in scheduled premiums. During 1977 all the 12 leading motor insurers applied for premium increases at least once. There were notifications of increases from 41 other motor insurers and from 41 insurance companies with scheduled rates in other classes of general business.

Oilco express concern over contract termination payments

Concern over the effects of claims for extra payments at the end of offshore related fabrication contracts was expressed today by members of the offshore industry liaison committee (Oilco) which is chaired by Minister of State for Energy, Dr J. Dickson Mabon.

In a statement, issued after a meeting in Glasgow, the committee said that it was concerned lest conceding such claims could reduce the number of orders coming to the UK and so affect adversely continuity of employment at UK sites. The committee recommended that contractors, trade unions and clients should act jointly to ensure that claims for termination payments in violation of existing agreements were rejected.

Oilco was set up early in 1976 to examine ways of assisting the UK offshore supplies industry to maximise its share of orders for goods and services for the UK Continental Shelf and worldwide. One of its terms of reference is to identify problems facing the industry and examine them in depth. The committee comprises clients, contractors and trade unions involved in offshore developments.

More passengers for high-speed rail

High-speed 'Inter-City 125' rail services, introduced just one month ago on the Edinburgh to London route, have brought an increase of more than 10 per cent in passenger journeys compared with the same period last year. The most popular train service was the 10.10 hours 'Flying Scotsman' from Edinburgh, which now makes the 393 mile journey in 4 hr 50 min, nearly 40 minutes less than the previous fastest time.

There are four high-speed '125' services in each direction between Edinburgh and London, but also proving very popular is the new early morning 07.05 from Edinburgh using conventional air-conditioned coaches and locomotives.

Later this year the new trains will start running between Aberdeen/Dundee and London, but at existing timings. The full high-speed timetable comes into operation in May of next year when the Edinburgh/London journey time will be further reduced to a 4½ hour city centre to city centre service; and Aberdeen and London will be only 7½ hours apart.

A Princess made for the family man

Austin Morris' Princess 2 range features two new engines, the 'O' series of 1.7 litre and 2 litre. Ride and handling has been upgraded and a variety of extras are included in the price. The series is designed for both the executive and the family man.

£1,000 design prize offered in NAS competition

An annual design prize is to be sponsored by the National Association of Shopfitters (NAS). A cheque for £1,000 plus a commemorative plaque will be offered to the winner of the competition which is open to architects and designers practising in the UK.

To qualify for the competition, the design project will be one for which the contract works have been completed and carried out in the United Kingdom by a member of the NAS. The closing date for entries is 31 January 1979 but entrants are asked to give notice of intention to submit by 20 October 1978. Further details and entry forms are available from the director, National Association of Shopfitters, NAS House, 411 Limpsfield Road, Warlingham, Surrey CR2 9HA, tel. Upper Warlingham (08832) 4961.

Dell welcomes cheap Scandinavian fares

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade has welcomed the proposals by British Airways to introduce a new reduced Apex return fare of £69 between the UK and Scandinavia.

Speaking on 14 June Mr Dell said that the fact that Scandinavian Airlines System had also agreed to offer the new fare on their services was most encouraging evidence of a changing attitude by the Scandinavians towards air travel, reflecting views which Britain had expressed during the first round of the UK/Scandinavian air service negotiations.

He added that this was a satisfactory step in the right direction, and it should provide a useful basis for further discussions on air fares which were being sought urgently between the UK's aviation authorities.

Further discussions are to take place in August on the wider issues involved in negotiating the new agreements.

Appeals by BIA and Dan Air dismissed

Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has dismissed appeals by British Island Airways (BIA) and Dan Air Services against the decision of the Civil Aviation Authority on applications to operate scheduled services between Gatwick and various European destinations.

The appeals followed a CAA hearing in September 1977. Dan Air appealed against not being given a licence to operate Gatwick to Düsseldorf and Zurich and BIA appealed against not being given a licence to operate Gatwick to Frankfurt, Dublin, Zurich and/or Geneva, Copenhagen and Hamburg. British Airways also appealed against the granting of licences to BCAL for services from Gatwick to Scandinavia. This appeal is still being considered.

1976 marine casualties lowest on record

Losses of UK-registered merchant vessels of 100 gross tons or more was the lowest on record at 3091 in 1976. Four-fifths of this total was accounted for by three vessels: *Wittering*, *Carnoustie* and *Judert II*. In all 15 merchant vessels (seven of them of 100 gross tons or more) were lost. The previous lowest tonnage loss recorded was 4514 in 1974. Losses in 1976 accounted for only 0.01 per cent of vessels at

risk. Serious casualties to merchant vessels numbered 15, amounting to 0.81 per cent of vessels at risk.

Deaths among crews of merchant vessels numbered 147; the previous low was 227 in 1973. Over half of the deaths (75) resulted from disease, suicide or homicide; 32 resulted from accidents aboard ship, 14 from casualties to vessels, 14 from accidents ashore and 12 crew members were missing at sea. The rate of deaths per thousand seamen at risk in 1976 was 0.9.

These figures are contained in a report *Casualties to Vessels and Accidents to Men, Vessels Registered in the United Kingdom. Return for 1976.* HMSO £1.75, ISBN 0 11 512189 7. The report also covers fishing vessels, with deep sea trawlers being shown separately. A total of 35 fishing vessels were lost in 1976, two of them –*Wyre Victory* and *Ben Gulvain* – being deep-sea trawlers. The loss of the *Wyre Victory* was the subject of a formal investigation by the Department of Trade. In 1976 deaths among crews of deep-sea trawlers numbered 15; deaths among crews of other fishing vessels numbered 20. Half of the deaths among fishing vessel crews resulted from casualties to vessels; the rest were the result of accidents or disease.

New safety regulations for babies' dummies

New regulations for the safety of babies' dummies were announced by John Fraser, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, on 16 June in reply to a parliamentary question.

The regulations, which have been made under the Consumer Protection Act 1961, come into operation on 1 October this year, for manufacturers and importers, and on 1 January 1979 for retailers and wholesalers. They will apply to all babies' dummies offered for sale in Great Britain. The regulations include (by reference to the British standard) requirements relating to design, construction and dimensions and also require dummies to satisfy compression, impact, bite and tensile tests as set out in the British standard. Each dummy is required, when sold, to be in a clean condition in a closed container and instructions must be given on the container or in a leaflet within it concerning safe usage.

Manufacturers, importers, wholesalers and retailers are all liable to prosecution if they sell non-complying dummies. The regulations will be enforced by local trading standards officers.

Copies of British Standard 5239 : 1975 are available from the British Standards Institution, 101 Pentonville Road, London N1 9ND.

Draft regulations on VAT bad debt relief

Financial Secretary to the Treasury, Robert Sheldon has made available for comment draft regulations for implementing the relief for value added tax on bad debts. Requests for further details and comments should be addressed to HM Customs and Excise, Room 210, Knollys House, 11 Byward Street, London EC3R 5AY. Comments must be received by 21 July. The regulations are due to come into operation by 2 October this year.

Scholarships for employees' children treated as benefits in kind

From 14 June when an employer sets up and finances an arrangement under which scholarship awards are made to children of directors or higher-paid employees, the Inland Revenue will contend that these awards give rise to benefits provided by reason of the employment and are therefore assessable on the parents.

Previously the Inland Revenue has not sought to treat, as a benefit taxable under section 61 Finance Act 1976 on a director or higher paid employee, the provision by his employer of a scholarship to assist in the cost of the education of a member of his family. They have refrained from doing so on the grounds that section 375 Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, which exempts from tax income from scholarships, precluded such a contention.

The revenue are now advised that section 375, whilst exempting from tax the scholarship income in the scholar's hands, does not prevent the cost of providing the scholarship from being a benefit taxable under section 61. They therefore propose in future to contend for liability under that section, and in accordance with section 72(3) Finance Act 1976, where a scholarship is awarded to a member of the family or household of a director or higher-paid employee and the award is made by reason of the latter's employment.

This does not apply to a benefit giving rise to liability under section 61 where there is only a fortuitous connection between the identity of the recipient of the scholarship and his parent's employment, for example, where a firm sets up a scheme for awarding scholarships which is open to all, but where one of the successful candidates happens to be the child of a higher-paid employee of that firm. Nor does it apply to income from existing awards. For the purpose of liability under section 61, a higher paid employee is one earning at the rate of £7,500 a year, including any benefits.

Merger proposals cleared

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection Roy Hattersley has decided, on the information at present before him, not to refer the following proposed mergers to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Greenall Whitley and Co Ltd and James Shipstone and Sons Ltd.

Northern Foods Ltd and Pork Farms Ltd.

Jove Investment Trust Ltd and Kingside Investment Trust Ltd.

Gunther Wagner Pelikan-Werke GmbH and Caribonum Ltd.

Official appointments

Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency: Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, has reappointed Arnold Kean, as a member of the Air Travel Reserve Fund Agency for a further period until 30 September 1979. Mr Kean is secretary and legal adviser to the Civil Aviation Authority.

English Tourist Board: The Secretary of State for Trade has invited Sir Mark Henig to accept reappointment for a further period as chairman of the English Tourist Board, and Sir Mark has agreed. At his request this further period has been limited to one year from 1 September 1978.

Patents endorsed 'licences of right'

Under section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'licences of right' on the date specified:

31 May 1978

1275210 International Standard Electric Corporation
Electric interface unit
1439579 International Standard Electric Corporation
Digital speech detector
1437584 International Standard Electric Corporation
Detachable connection, for example, for telephones
1440542 International Standard Electric Corporation
Improvements in push-button calling circuits for telephone sets
1457929 International Standard Electric Corporation
Data transmission system
1470859 International Standard Electric Corporation
System telegraph message transmission
1472190 International Standard Electric Corporation
System for analysing and storing telegraph characters received in blocks from a message line
1433178 Princeton Polymer Laboratories Inc.
Degradable hydrocarbon polymers
1433179 Princeton Polymer Laboratories Inc.
Improvements relating to the degradattion of hydrocarbon polymers
1433180 Princeton Polymer Laboratories Inc.
Novel compositions containing benzotriazole compounds and degradable polystyrene compositions containing them
1491902 Agfa-Gevaert
Development of exposed lith-emulsions
1433111 Agfa-Gevaert
Improvements relating to the production of photomasks
1477319 Screg Routes Et Travaux Publics
Improvements in or relating to a surface layer on a roadway and a process for preparing said layer
1477351 Screg Routes Et Travaux Publics
Process for the production of a composition for road surfaces and the like
1082617 Sidney Pepperman
Improvements in g[illegible]es of skill
1202600 Raimund August Wurscher
Improvements in or relating to devices for grinding drills
1400106 Goblin (BVC) Ltd
Vacuum cleaners
1427296 ITT Creed Ltd
Stepper motor control arrangement
1477095 Saul Liss
Apparatus for temporarily arresting arthritic pain
1492804 Lancashire Box Co Ltd
Box pallets and their method of construction
1240924 Thomas Robinson and Sons Ltd and Dorothy Buckley
Reciprocating saws

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which the claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on patents form 45 within two months after the date of endorsement.

I. J. G. Davis, Comptroller

British electric vehicles tested in Paris

A British built Bedford CF electric vehicle won the high payload section in a competition sponsored by the French government to determine the current level of electric vehicle technology in Europe. The electric version of this popular van emerged as one of the winners for vehicles up to 1500 kg. As a result, Lucas Industries Ltd, together with the developers of the battery, will be invited to tender for the provision of a substantial number of its vans to take part in extensive trials in and around the French capital. At the same time the van is being tested on the streets of London where 62 vans, including 25 Bedford CF's, have been used for urban delivery work.

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4 July 1978

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THE I.P. NEWSLETTER – The new report on patents, trade marks, copyright, unfair competition, commercial secrets, know-how and other forms of industrial and intellectual property: for the corporate adviser (£27.50 pa).

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Towards more able young people in manufacturing careers

Manufacturing accounts for between a quarter and one-third of our gross national product, over half our total exports including invisibles and a third of our employment, some 7 million jobs. Yet too few of Britain's most able people are becoming highly qualified in subjects important to manufacturing, particularly engineering. The Department of Industry has taken several initiatives to meet this problem. Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State Les Huckfield describes an emerging pattern of activity by government, industry and educational institutions which will help to meet an important national need – a higher proportion of able young people being attracted to manufacturing careers and to the courses leading to them – and asks for greater participation by industry.

Last summer the Department of Industry published a discussion paper called 'Industry, Education and Management' (*Trade and Industry*, 29 July 1977, page 169). The purpose of the paper was to draw attention to the importance of manufacturing industry to Britain's economy, the need to improve our manufacturing performance, the vital responsibilities of managers and engineers within manufacturing and how necessary it is for Britain to have really good people in these jobs if we are to compete successfully in the modern world.

Industrial nations like Britain are finding it ever more necessary to improve efficiency and move into more sophisticated, high added value products. The pressures of world competition are leading to a decrease in unskilled employment opportunities in British manufacturing. Our manufacturing activities in the future will increasingly depend on a smaller workforce having a higher proportion of qualified people. It will be particularly vital to have enough highly qualified engineers, scientists and managers able to take responsibility for developing, making and selling the sort of products Britain can compete with. We already have people in industry showing how this can be done. We need more of them.

'Industry, Education and Management' examined a number of factors which seemed to deter able young people from choosing manufacturing careers and studying relevant subjects to higher levels. Among these were the image of industry in society and certain influences in the education system.

Since the paper was published, I have had over 40 meetings, visits and conferences in various parts of the country to stimulate closer co-operation and understanding between industry and education, especially at schools level where foundations are laid for future attitudes and interest in subjects and careers is awakened. These meetings have made me appreciate what an enormous job still has to be done even in the most go-ahead places. I have been tremendously encouraged by the enthusiasm and initiative of many local people in education and industrial concerns to work together in tackling these problems. There does seem to have been a real awakening to the need for action and increasing numbers of people are prepared to take part.

I was very glad to see that the green paper 'Education in Schools', published last July by the Secretaries of State for Education and for Wales fully emphasised the importance of better understanding and co-operation between schools and industry. This needs to be two-way. It also needs to be developed on a local basis. The government circular and questionnaire to local education authorities, which followed up the green paper, asks about existing arrangements and future plans for co-operation with industry.

Over the next few months the authorities are likely to be reviewing present activities and considering what more needs to be done in their areas. Now is a good time for people in industry to let their local education institutions know they are keen to work more closely with them. Please do not wait for someone to approach you. Take the initiative.

Range of activities

The range of education activities in which people from industry need to be involved is considerable:

- ☐ Helping to explain to students and teachers in schools and colleges the national importance of industry and how a manufacturing company works;
- ☐ Explaining to students and teachers the sort of work done by managers, engineers and other employees in manufacturing industry and what educational attainments and personal qualities are required (this is not direct company recruitment but it will still involve co-operation with careers people in schools, LEAs, colleges and universities);
- ☐ The development of facilities, materials, projects and industrial visits to help explain to students the practical industrial relevance of subjects they are studying;
- ☐ The provision of work experience and work observation opportunities, not only for pupils leaving school at 16 but including work in industry which is relevant to the career expectations of those likely to complete courses at college and university; for example letting them see something of the work of engineers, technicians and managers.
- ☐ The provision of more opportunities in companies for teachers to improve their understanding of industry.
- ☐ Working with education people to identify industry's education and training needs at all levels including, where appropriate, help both with the design of courses and with teaching them (this includes co-operation with universities, colleges, regional management centres, and education bodies like the Business and Technician Education Councils).

It would be too much to expect most industrial companies to participate in the whole range of activities but senior management should ensure that their company considers positively what contributions it is prepared to make in co-operating with the education service, adopts an action programme and reviews it regularly to see if it can be improved and developed.

It is not practicable or desirable to arrange all industry and education co-operation centrally. There are many national organisations which do contribute a great deal to the total effort but their activities need to be publicised and stimulated locally. In addition, many other valuable activities originate locally from the initiative and enthusiasm of individuals and good ideas in one place could well be copied in others. What seems to be missing in many areas is an effective information network. I have been encouraging local education authorities to consider with local industry, trades unions and education interests how this need could best be met.

The Department of Industry has been helping to promote closer links between schools and industry for about nine years, particularly at local level. Broadly, our aims have been to associate more industrial relevance with the subjects taught in schools; to improve the understanding by pupils, teachers and parents of industry and its role in Britain; and to stimulate greater awareness of the challenge and opportunities and satisfaction of work in industry so that more of our able young people at all levels develop an interest in industrial careers and courses leading to them. The department is prepared to give financial or moral support to activities making a direct contribution to these objectives where there is also satisfactory local support and involvement.

Encouraged

The 20 science and technology regional organisations (Satros) in the country which are encouraged by the department through financial support for activities where industrial relevance is combined with educational objectives such as industrially based project work, in-service training courses for teachers, curriculum development, competitions, exhibitions and conferences. In view of the increasing activity by existing Satros, together with the prospect of new centres being established in other parts of the country, the department has set aside £100,000 over the next three years to be administered by the Standing Conference on Schools, Science and Technology (SCSST). This is to assist in the further development of school/industry initiatives by Satros and to give greater encouragement to the valuable work by these centres.

The SCSST Funding Assessment Panel has already approved assistance for a number of proposals: an evaluation of the Cardiff school/industry link scheme; a curriculum development project at Cardiff Satro to prepare materials which relate science lessons to industrial processes; preparation of a resource directory by Avon Satro; extending the industry related activities of the Middlesex Polytechnic Satro to include conferences for schools about industry, exchange visits between teachers and industrial staff, courses for careers teachers about industrial opportunities; and an in-service weekend conference for Satro teachers.

Grant awarded

In October last year, the department awarded a grant of up to £10,000 to be matched by an equal contribution by the Newcastle Education Authority to assist in the expansion and further development of the Newcastle Science and Technology Education Centre (Nestec) currently based in Newcastle Polytechnic. On the basis of an evaluation exercise after 12-15 months operation, and given the support of other local education authorities in the north-east, the department is hopeful of continuing this support for a further two years to ensure that this centre serves a wider area in the north-east and develops the range of activities associated with a Satro.

The department sponsors Project Engineers and Technologists for Tomorrow (Pett), an organisation bringing together over 40 bodies who are involved in action to promote awareness at schools level of the social and economic importance of engineering, technology and industry together with information about careers in this area. Pett itself provides travelling exhibitions, sponsors films and lectures, and sends *Project* magazine free to secondary schools. We have placed, through Pett, a three year contract with the University of Southampton and the Southern Science and Technology Forum (Southampton Satro) for the design, construction and development of components and equipment for use in schools.

In-service course

The department co-operated with the Sunderland Education Authority in sponsoring an in-service course for science based teachers called 'science lessons from industrial processes'. This enabled teachers from 12 schools to pend half a day each week for two terms in local firms learning about processes related to their syllabus teaching. This scheme is having helpful effects on curriculum development and as a result, seven other authorities are making attempts to introduce similar ideas in their areas. We are keen to repeat the scheme in other areas to which it can lend support.

In co-operation with the Association for Science Education, the Council of Engineering Institutions, the Royal Society and the Mathematical Associations, the department is assisting in the preparation of guidance material in science, engineering and technology related to the existing curricula and syllabuses in schools. The initial work in preparing this material will be carried out by groups of practising teachers and industrialists in areas throughout the country, and made available to all teachers in science based subjects.

We also helped in sponsoring the Kings College (London) workshop experiment in which 40 sixth form pupils spend five days of their winter vacation learning about life in industry and a university engineering department. This experiment was successful and has been written up so that others interested in such action can benefit from the experience. The department has since been assisting in similar schemes in other parts of the country. A particular feature is that it provides the opportunity for youngsters to learn about industry and engineering before they commit themselves to a degree course.

The Department of Industry would like to hear from people in industry and education about action they have taken or are taking to improve attitudes towards manufacturing industry and to stimulate interest in manufacturing careers. Please write to the Industry and Education Unit, IP4, Room 355, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6RB. Contributions should be described in a way which would most help others in a position to arrange similar actions.

Stories of such initiatives will be considered for publication in *Trade and Industry*. Please write to the Editor, Trade and Industry, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

The Institutions of Electrical and Mechanical Engineers are jointly sponsoring a scheme of teacher fellowships for teachers in science and craft subjects to gain experience of industry and up-to-date practical techniques. The first fellowships have recently been awarded and we are hoping to assist in the development and expansion of this scheme.

Over the last 10 years the department has given annual support to the technological programme for schools organised by the British Association for the Advancement of Science. Examples of activities arranged under this programme include industrial visits, lectures, meetings, project work and the now famous science fairs for pupils between the ages of 11 and 18. The department also supported the association's study into the education, recruitment, deployment of engineers in manufacturing industry.

Young engineers

Through its sponsorship of Pett the department co-operated with the *Daily Express* to organise the first 'Young Engineer for Britain' competition in October 1976. This was most successful and we are supporting a similar event this year. The competition is designed specifically to encourage young people between the ages of 16 and 19 to develop their interest in professional engineering, and through publicity to demonstrate to society at large the considerable talent which exists in our schools, colleges and companies which needs to be recognised and encouraged for the nation's benefit.

We also maintain close contact with the government departments and agencies responsible for education and training. Our activities are complementary to theirs. We try to act as a catalyst, stimulating action in this area which is likely to help manufacturing industry and which needs a small amount of government support in order to get it going. The resources and staff the Department of Industry can devote to this area are very limited and this underlines our need to work in close co-operation with non-government and local bodies as partners in getting action under way. My 'Shaping Tomorrow' conferences in Birmingham and Newcastle were examples of this. The active support of local polytechnics and the local press was essential in mounting these events. Within the department the people developing our interests in education have been brought together in an industry and education unit.

Direct involvement

Although most of our direct involvement has been at schools' level, we are very much aware of the need for close co-operation between industry and further and higher education too. The department has been able to participate in some events and we have seen that there is still tremendous scope for more people from industry to help with activities at this level, improving understanding of industry, improving awareness of career possibilities in industry and helping in planning and participating in courses relevant to industrial work.

Again I would ask people in industry not to wait to be approached; take the decision to make the first contact and ask how you can help. The careers and appointment services in universities and polytechnics alone need an enormous amount of participation by industry in the valuable activities which they arrange for students and employers and increasingly these go much wider than just direct recruitment exercises. In this connection the Careers Research and Advisory Centre in Cambridge is mounting a programme of action to give undergraduates and sixth formers an insight about careers in wealth creating parts of the economy. I would like to see more manufacturing companies involved in this programme, which needs good participation by industry.

Important

It is particularly important that companies should help the education system to develop courses which give new and existing employees the best chance of acquiring the capabilities which will be of most value to them in their industrial employment. Industry's needs are constantly changing and helping the education service to meet and anticipate them is a continuing task. There is no satisfactory substitute for the direct participation of people from industry in this work. Companies should regard it as one of their normal functions. Let the education service know you want to help and work out jointly what your contribution can be.

The Business and Technician Education Councils, for example, are making determined efforts to ensure that their courses shall provide students with skills relevant to their actual or proposed employment. Both councils include a high proportion of members from industry and they maintain this pattern of membership throughout their committee structures as a matter of policy. Furthermore, colleges of further education are required to consult local industry when producing material for validation by either council.

New publications

Foreign exchange losses

Treatment of foreign exchange losses in company accounts varies from country to country, and, in some quarters there has been unfavourable comparisons of the UK approach with that in other developed countries. Clearly, this is a matter of wide interest to the export community, and one which probably deserves more debate, so a recent study by John Chown and Malcolm Finney should be of interest.

As the authors observe in their introduction, 'companies wishing to undertake (or organise) fixed interest borrowings, may have to decide which currency to borrow, for what maturity to borrow it and through which company in the group to undertake the borrowing'. Chown and Finney analyse the two factors affecting the choice – the tax treatment of interest, and the tax treatment of foreign currency fluctuations.

The authors start by putting the whole question of currency movements briefly in perspective, and then deal with the tax treatment of interest, financing subsidiaries, foreign borrowings, and, taxation and exchange risk. They also contribute a critical analysis of an Inland Revenue discussion paper on this question, appending the text of the Revenue's document.

An introductory chapter on corporate finance and exchange control which presents the necessary background for newcomers to the subject indicates the authors' intention of presenting their discussion to the widest possible audience. For, as they tell us, they intend their commentary 'as a practical guide to the management of foreign currency borrowings from the point of view of the company treasurer or banker'. 'It should also be of use to brokers, investment analysists and (we hope) Treasury and Revenue officials and members of parliament.' They could be right.

Foreign Currency Debt Management: a tax financial analysis for corporations, by John Chown and Malcolm Finney. Available from J. F. Chown and Co Ltd, 108 Cannon Street, London EC4N 6EU. 1977. 62 pages; paperback £15.00.

Third edition on exchange control

Now in its third edition, Anthony Parker's 'Exchange Control' is considered by many to be a standard work on the subject. As with previous editions, it serves as a comprehensive reference tool for those requiring up-to-date information on current exchange-control regulations.

Two important new features in this latest edition are the inclusion of an additional section on regulations in overseas countries and a set of specimen Bank of England application forms. Obviously much of this information will need to be amended and updated regularly and the looseleaf format, together with the amendment service, should facilitate this. Those who already have the second edition should note that the binder supplied will be adequate for the third edition and so save them money.

Exchange Control, by Anthony Parker. 3rd edition. Jordan and Sons, PO Box 260, 15 Pembroke Road, Bristol BS99 7DX. 1978. Looseleaf £32.00. (ISBN 0 85308050 X).

Money for business: the sources . . .

Particular problems face the smaller firm when it comes to raising funds. Disabilities for the smaller company seeking external financial aid were mentioned in the Bolton report (1971) and more recently by the Committee to Review the Functioning of Financial Institutions in its evidence which was published last year.

In both cases one important factor came to light – the lack of communication between these companies and the financial institutions. The latter we are told have funds readily available but no relevant takers. In order to close the gap between the two, the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry decided to introduce a new service. It takes the form of a new service, 'Sources of Finance for Small Firms', which has been launched with the appearance of a directory which is expected to appear annually.

The directory itself is divided into three sections, covering short, medium, and long-term finance. For each financial institution, a brief entry provides the name, address and telephone number. Occasionally there is an additional note on specific provisions. There are however certain major omissions, especially the exclusion of governmental aid, which the compilers would do well to consider for the next edition – particularly the facilities available from the Departments of Industry and Trade. More details in the comments column would be equally welcome. On the production side, more sub-headings would enhance the directory's value as a reference tool, as would an index of the organisations listed (some provide different types of aid and are included in more than one section) and numbered pages.

But these are minor criticisms. The chamber must be commended for a worthy attempt to introduce a service which could provide vital assistance to businessmen both in London and throughout the country.

Sources of Finance for Small Firms. Sources of Finance Service, Economic Department, London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 69 Cannon Street, London EC4N 5AB. 1978. Book 1978 alone [55] pages; paperback £5.00 (to members), £7.50 (to non-members). (ISBN 0 90 1902 48 9). Full service until 31 December 1978; £5.50 (to members), £8.00 (to non-members).

. . . and the options

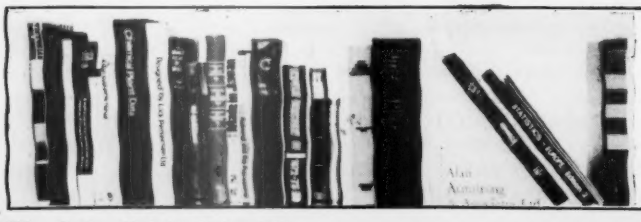
Drawing attention to the availability of the full range of funds for business finance is the subject of a second recent publication; produced jointly by the Bank of England and the City Communications Centre. Aimed primarily at the smaller firm seeking expansion and as yet unfamiliar with the technicalities involved in acquiring aid for this purpose, it provides general guidance on what facilities exist.

Divided into three sections, the book starts by describing how to assess what funds will be required, and identifies the most appropriate facilities that will meet these requirements. Included in this section are some interesting, hypothetical case histories. The wide range of facilities available is described in some depth. As well as short, medium and long-term borrowing, there is data on equity capital, finance for exports, and public-sector aid at both national and local level. There is even mention of facilities within the European community. The organisations which actually hold the purse strings are listed at the end, with details of the relevant contact point – particularly useful when dealing with larger organisations. For those requiring further advice there is a short list of advisory services or referral points.

This is an excellent publication in both content and presentation, though it will not, of course, answer all initial inquiries and doubtless further expert advice will be called for. It does, however, provide an invaluable easy-to-use introduction and should prove valuable to any businessman examining the financial options open to him. It is one item of expenditure that merits no hesitation.

Money for Business: a guide; prepared by the Bank of England and the City Communications Centre. Available from the Bank of England, Threadneedle Street, London EC2R 8AH or from The City Communications Centre, 7th Floor, Stock Exchange, London EC2N 1HP. 1978. viii, 105 pages; paperback £1.00. (ISBN 0 90331209 3).

Selection of publications for review on this page does not necessarily reflect the views of the government, nor do the opinions expressed. Inquiries about this *page and submissions for review should be* sent to *Trade and Industry*, New Publications *Page, Room LG 17A, 1 Victoria Street,* London SW1H 0ET, tel. 01-215 4136.



The books reviewed above – and many other business books are *available immediately from:*

THE BUSINESS SCHOOL BOOKSHOP

Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4SA 01-723 3902

★ ***THIS MONTH'S RECOMMENDED PURCHASE:***

'The Directory of Export Buyers in the UK'

First edition 1978 – £25

New products

Two-speed transfer case built for heavy-duty

British Twin Disc Ltd has developed a two-speed transfer case for heavy-duty 4 × 4 and 6 × 6 chassis of up to 20-ton gross weight. Offered to manufacturers of all types of on or off the road vehicles including fire and crash tenders, building and forestry equipment and so on, the unit has been designed specifically to provide maximum traction, even on slippery surfaces, and to be quiet in operation.

Apart from providing a two-speed facility, the heavy-duty unit drives both vehicle axles at all times thus eliminating any partial disengagement and simplifying control. It features a straight bevel inter-axle differential that operates in high (1:1) and low (1.8:1) ratios. This prevents torsional wind-up and eliminates the need for a disconnecting facility. The design also reduces operating costs as it reduces mechanical wear due to slip.

One of the major problems associated with multi-drive axle chassis – that of friction losses through churning in the low-gear train on engaging high gear – has been eliminated by fitting a second dog clutch on the output gear. Input shaft and differential are mounted on taper roller bearings, and all gears are mounted on needle-roller bearings.

Normally, driver control is through a single change lever, and differential lock can be engaged through another lever to provide maximum traction on bad terrain. The unit is supplied in a universal housing, designed for mounting at various angles. An optional facility can be provided for power take-off to operate cranes, fire pumps or other vehicle-carried equipment.

Dimensions of the model DD-20-750 are 635 mm × 515 mm × 540 mm and its weight is 224 kg. Input torque rating is approximately 4.15 kNm for mechanical drive, and 6.22 kNm for torque converter drive. Nominal oil capacity is 10¼ litres.

Further information: circle 687

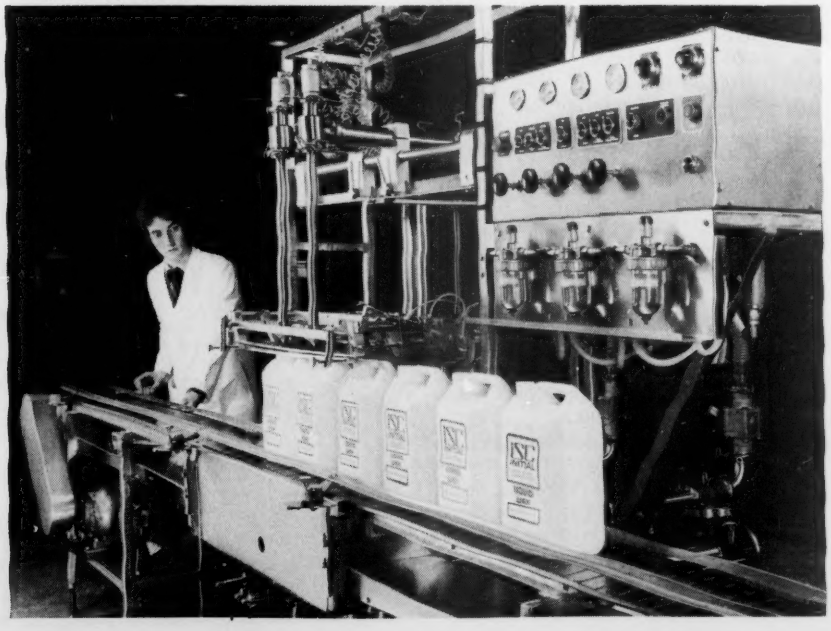
Automatic machine for fast filling

Fast, clean, accurate filling of various sized containers with foaming or non-foaming chemical, pharmaceutical or food fluid products is claimed for a new automatic machine introduced by Neumo of Newhaven. A compact, single-track continuous running unit, the machine is capable of accepting, at any time, up to four filling heads each fed by a 5 litre capacity quick-strip positive displacement pump actuated by a reciprocating air motor.

Working areas can be quickly adjusted for changes of product or container size. The company says that one person can comfortably adjust twin-container guide-rails, height and centres of filling heads and volume of product dispensed in 90 seconds. Guide rails are on swing hinges, heads are pneumatically adjusted in height to pre-set positions and air motors also have six-position turret controls to give instant change of pre-set volumes dispensed. The machine can be thoroughly flushed in place or stripped quickly by hand.

Further information: circle 688

Automatic filling machine for containers ranging from 250 ml to 10 litres with automatic selection of multiple pump cycling for containers over 5 litre capacity.



Machine speeds tablet making

This totally enclosed rotary tablet-making machine, capable of producing over 11 000 tablets a minute in diameters up to 11.11 mm is being marketed by Manesty.

A feature of the Rotapress mk IIa is a pair of compaction force monitors, and variable speed feeders are fitted to ensure consistent tablet weight even with the machine operating at high speeds.

Further information: circle 689

Wipe-clean hospital bed clothes are made of plastic

A range of hospital products introduced by H. J. B. Plastics of Leicester includes pvc bed clothes which can be washed or wiped clean. Available in green, blue and white, the clothes are hygienic, soft and comfortable. The complete range consists of pillow case covers, mattress covers, draw sheets, protective aprons, overshoes, X-ray folders and clip boards.

In the standard sizes, the pillow case covers measure 510 mm × 760 mm, the mattress covers are 915 mm × 1900 mm × 180 mm and the draw sheets 915 mm × 1600 mm. Other sizes can be made to order. The protective aprons cover from chest to knees and the overshoes are elasticated to fit any size of shoe.

X-ray folders, which measure 470 mm × 395 mm can be screen-printed with information or instructions. Screen-printing can also be applied to the clip-boards which measure 355 mm × 230 mm.

Further information: circle 690

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

For shredding print outs faster

Computershred 1600 is a high capacity machine purpose-designed for shredding bulk computer printout as well as handling discarded general office documents.

Continuous multi-part stationery can be handled without de-collation with the special feed-shelf attachment supplied with the machine. Printout is quickly shredded into 6.4 mm wide strips at 33.5 m per minute.

A high-capacity machine, the Ofrex shredder is designed to take 30 sheets of 210 mm wide and 25 sheets of 370 mm wide printout at one pass. It operates on normal 13 amp, single phase supply.

Further information: circle 691

Computershred 1600 handles 25 printouts, 370 mm wide at one pass.

Safer petrol can launched

Valor one and two gallon cans just launched make it safer to store petrol in garage, shed, car boot, or boat. They are packed with a honeycomb of thin aluminium foil which breaks down a gallon of petrol into 20 000 cells – each able to disperse heat so rapidly as to prevent build up. It is the first consumer product, says the manufacturer, to use Explosafe foil, although it is being used in the tanks of military and police vehicles, leisure boats, and for industrial applications.

The vast number of cells makes any build-up of heat rapidly dispersable. There is no time for a hot spot to develop and the material prevents explosive detonation of the vapour following its ignition. Heat is absorbed from the flame front and the mesh forms a barrier to the progress of the flame.

The volume of displacement by the 20 000 aluminium cells is negligible, under one-thousandth per cent. The system also has the advantage of not affecting the filling of cans and virtually eliminates slosh, says Valor.

Further information: circle 692

Television actress Maggie Guess demonstrates that the new Valor Explosafe petrol can does not explode when she pours lighted petrol from one Explosafe can to another. Using ordinary cans a violent flashback explosion would occur.

No hiding plaice with fish-finder

What are claimed to be the world's most advanced fish-finding echosounders have been introduced by Marconi Marine. The Chromascope K range of echosounders is designed to display received echoes from fish shoals and the seabed in colour on a television-type screen. Received echoes, fed from a storage memory circuit, are displayed in colours and tints which directly relate to the intensities of the signals received from individual objects. The result is a coloured mosaic of signals which integrate to form a chart-like presentation which shows fish shoals and the seabed in a manner which is easy to interpret. The integrated chart is constantly updated from the memory store. Bottom lock and range expansion are both available as well as the ability to 'freeze' any particular sounding if required for closer examination.

Sixteen shades of colour are used for displaying echo intensities as compared with only four stages of graduation provided by a conventional black and white display. Colour changes according to echo intensity, strongest echo being dark red, weakest white and non-echoes blue, and the colours range through red, orange, yellow, green, blue green, white, greenish blue and blue, each with two tones from high to low level. Large fish, plankton zones or other images and shoals are clearly distinguishable from other echoes due to clear colour graduation, particularly fish shoals on the seabed which are easily discriminated from the seabed itself, and the experienced fisherman is also able to recognize the type of fish.

It is important for fishing operations to obtain not only information on fish, but also knowledge of the seabed. From the Chromascope K image the shape and the quality of the seabed can be read. A narrow and intermittent line means sandy soil; if the red line indicating the seabed is continuous and wider than that of sandy soil, the ground is muddy, and rocks are clearly shown by downward projections.

Micro-circuit techniques and absence of moving parts makes this equipment a reliable fish-finder and it has the added advantage of not requiring sounding paper which reduces running costs to a minimum.

Chromascope K uses a dual transducer and the two frequencies can be selected from 14, 24, 28, 50, 75 and 200 kHz. The colour display automatically indicates the range scale in use and the depth of the seabed. A tape recorder can be provided to store displayed-information for later replay.

Further information: circle 693

Small-charge seismic explosive for marsh land

Microseis is a small charge seismic explosive introduced by Nobel's Explosives Company, for use in difficult-to-drill ground or marshy areas. It consists of a two part plastic unit which holds a basic charge of 15 g and additional charges of 15 g or 30 g can be added. The upper plastic unit holds the detonator and accepts a loading pole to push the assembly into soft ground.

Further information: circle 694

Technology news

Realistic wind effects in NMI tunnel

Greater realism in laboratory investigations of the interaction of wind conditions with marine and land based structures is provided by a recently commissioned wind tunnel of the Department of Industry's National Maritime Institute. The facility enhances the range of the institute's services available to consulting engineers, architects, local authorities and government departments.

Typical applications of the new tunnel are the investigation of the wind loading and dynamic response of buildings, chimney stacks, bridges, ships, and offshore platforms, as well as the environmental airflow in the vicinity of man-made structures or natural features.

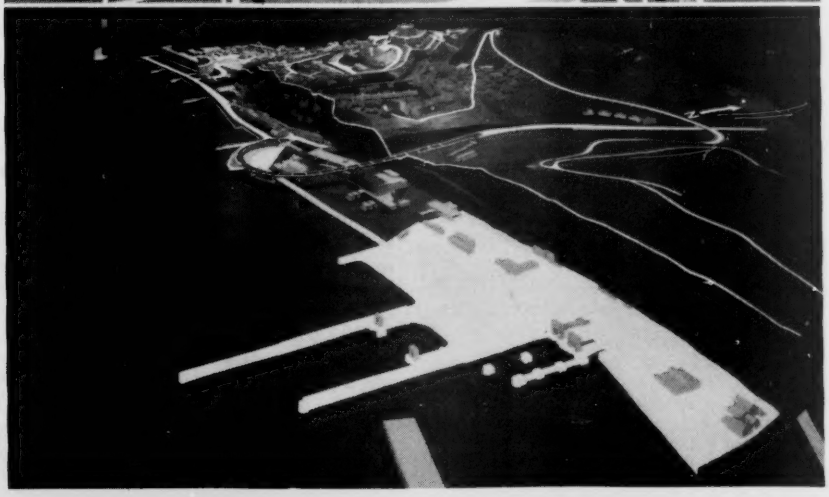
The principal feature of the tunnel is its ability to simulate the turbulence and velocity gradients of natural winds. A variety of upwind terrains – open sea, open country and built-up areas – can be represented. A large test section permits the use of extensive topographical models so that modifications of the air flow by local features, towers, buildings, cliffs, in the vicinity of the structure under investigation can be included.

The use of an air flow modelled to particular conditions or terrain yields far more appropriate results than does a steady uniform flow when the effects of wind upon structures in real situations are being investigated. Correct simulation of atmospheric wind gradient, and turbulence can be produced at a scale of up to 1 : 200, while larger scales are usable with progressive relaxation of similarity.

The special capabilities have been achieved by extensive reconstruction and modernisation of one of the existing wind tunnels at the institute's Teddington site. The tunnel is powered by two 280 kW drive fans giving an air speed which can be controlled to 0.5 per cent in the range 0.5 to 45 m/s. The test section is 4.8 m wide, 2.4 m high, and 15 m long. Models are mounted on a 4.4 m diameter turntable with special provision for vibration isolation. Turbulence and wind shear are generated by upstream devices including air jets.

The institute provides services for the investigation of a wide variety of maritime aerodynamic and hydrodynamic problems. Experiments give information from which improvements in safety and efficiency can be made at the design stage and substantial savings in constructional costs effected. Work is undertaken on a commissioned basis. Inquiries regarding the availability of the institutes facilities should be addressed to the Director, National Maritime Institute, Feltham, Middlesex TW14 0LQ, tel. 01-977 0933.

The new NMI wind tunnel and (bottom) a model of a road viaduct at Dover harbour and surrounding terrain used for a wind tunnel investigation of wind effects on vehicles using the viaduct.



Bulk materials handling seminar

The Department of Industry's penultimate seminar in the series entitled 'Bulk Materials Handling – New Technology Solves the Problems' will be held on 20 September at the Kensington Close Hotel, London.

The seminar, which the department's committee for materials handling is organising in conjunction with the Warren Spring Laboratory, is for those who are responsible for the planning, design, installation and operation of bulk materials handling systems. It is intended to increase companies' awareness of current techniques and design both for individual items of plant and for complete bulk materials handling systems.

The chairman for the day will be Mr H. N. Wilkinson of British Steel Corporation. Speakers will be from ICI Ltd, Thames Polytechnic and Warren Spring Laboratory. The seminar fee is £10 inclusive of coffee, lunch, afternoon tea and VAT. Further details can be obtained from Department of Industry, Room 527, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6RB (tel. 01-212 6037).

Sailing ships studied as alternative to oil fuelling

Windrose Ships Ltd have been given a £5,000 grant by the Department of Industry to assist the company in carrying out a feasibility study on the viability of square-rigged sailing ships as a form of marine transport for the future. The study should be completed by August.

Constantly escalating bunkering costs and the realisation that the world's supply of fuel oil is diminishing rapidly, makes the exploration of alternative means of power desirable. The department's ship and marine technology

requirements board, which sponsored the study, is looking at means of improving the efficiency of existing ship propulsion as well as other alternatives to oil fuelling.

A study into the use of emulsified oil, supported by a grant of £17,000 is in hand. A £38,000 grant supported study into the feasibility of re-introducing coal firing is nearing completion.

Windrose Ships Ltd, whose formation was announced recently, has the primary objective of promoting the re-introduction of the auxiliary sailing ship as an economic fleet unit and also of training a new generation of seamen.

International Sailiners, a division of Windrose Ships Ltd, is at present developing the design and operational data for a standard 12 000 dwt five-masted auxiliary barque, which will be available as a container, bulk carrier or general cargo ship.

Mathematical portraits and surgery

After 14 years research, the world's first automatic and completely standardised technique for analysing the shape of the human head has been perfected by a British surgeon. The technique provides a three-dimensional 'blueprint' that will aid facial repairs by plastic surgeons, eye, ear, nose and throat surgery and is likely to help in reconstructive surgery on children deformed at birth.

Developed by Dr Graham Rabey of Manchester Medical School, the equipment takes six sets of pictures of the patient – three photographs and three x-rays. These are then built up – as shown in these examples – into a three-dimensional picture on a mathematical grid showing the skeletal structure, from the x-rays, and the facial texture, from the photographs.

Dr Rabey found the successful formula when he took three points on the human head as reference marks – the ears and a bone under the left eye. Using these three data points, he built a machine which had a grid in front of the patient's face. When the photographs and x-rays are taken, the patient's head is placed with two conical ear plugs touching the ears and a small lead dot placed under the left eye. With the grid in front related to these points, the 'norm' can be found and the formula for operating achieved. The grid will be standard and suitable for use throughout the world.

To build up a mathematically exact picture in this way now takes 20 to 40 minutes, whereas previously surgeons might spend up to three weeks planning how, when and where to operate. The Medical School is building up a stock of cranial and facial data which they hope will grow into an international information bank. Using this system a surgeon in the United States could, for instance, consult the school on the case of a severe jaw disfiguration and receive the correct co-ordinates enabling him to complete the operation.

Giant draughting machine for CAD centre

The Computer Aided Design Centre, Cambridge, has taken delivery of a machine capable of producing precision engineering drawings up to1219 mm × 2083 mm at speeds of up to 1067 mm per second within an accuracy of 0.125 mm. It is a Calcomp 915/748 high-speed flatbed draughting machine.

The production service group at the CAD Centre produces computer-generated engineering drawings for a wide range of applications. The group's aim is to make computer-aided design and computer-aided manufacturing technologies available to industrial organisations of all sizes offering minimum capital investment route into this new technology. Its existing Kongsberg 1215 HA draughting machine will continue to be used for the production of printed circuit board artworks, inspection charts and optical follower drawings; the new machine will be used to cope with the increasing demand for mechanical engineering drawings, circuit diagrams and architectural drawings.

The centre now claims to have the most comprehensive independent computer-aided draughting service. Much of the work there uses engineering application software packages developed at the centre. Amongst the companies making use of the production services group are Pye Telecommunications Ltd, GEC, British Aerospace, Marshalls of Cambridge, Lucas, and Smiths of Royston.

Radioactive fallout from nuclear tests at low level

In 1976 the concentration of Caesium-137 in air over the UK fell to its lowest level since sampling by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority began in 1953. Although the concentration rose again in 1977, in response to a Chinese nuclear test during 1976, the current levels are still only two per cent of the maximum reached in 1963-64. This record of 25 years' sampling of Caesium-137 in fallout from nuclear weapons tests is contained in a report (AERE-R 9016) by the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority and published on 16 June by HMSO, price £1.50.

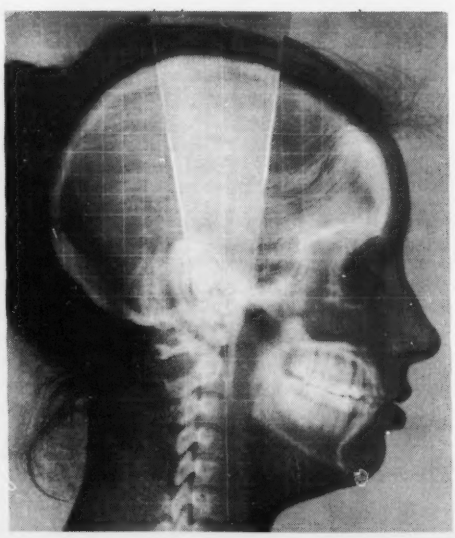
The network of stations carrying out sampling for analysis by the UKAEA team, who are based at the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Harwell, includes seven in the UK and 19 overseas, at sites from 70° north to Antarctica in the south. The fallout programme was designed principally to monitor radioactive fallout from nuclear test explosions so that its effect on the general population could be assessed, by establishing correlations with radioactivity in food, in collaboration with the Agricultural Research Council, and in man, with the Medical Research Council.

Early warnings have been obtained during the programme of potential dietary contamination; and it has been found possible to monitor the external radiation dose to the population at large. The pre-existing natural radioactivity of the environment has been overlain by small but detectable quantities of radioactive material produced by weapons testing, whose total quantity can be estimated. In effect, therefore, weapons fallout sets a 'baseline' of radioactivity against which the effects of nuclear reactor and similar operations can be measured.

Radioactive debris injected by each test explosion into the troposphere and into the stratosphere have served as valuable meteorological tracers in the discovery of atmospheric mechanisms and transport processes. Concentrations of radioactivity in the troposphere have been found to rise to their highest values in the spring of each year; globally there is a minimum at the equator and maxima at latitude about 35°, north and south. The total global deposition of fallout has been estimated year by year, and good agreement has been found with the amounts thought to have been injected progressively into the atmosphere.

The report notes that iodine-131 and barium-140, indicative of a recent atmospheric test, were detected in air and rain in the UK after the low-yield Chinese explosion of 17 September 1977. Iodine-131 ceased to be detectable by mid-October and barium-140 by December 1977.

These three-dimensional pictures were made using the technique developed by Dr Rabey.



Parliament

Monday, 12 June

Textile imports

Peter Morrison (City of Chester) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what were the bulk volume of textile imports into the United Kingdom in each year since 1970.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

	1974	1975	1976	1977
Thousand tonnes	536	493	562	582

Notes [1] These figures cover wool tops; synthetic and regenerated (artificial) fibres; knitted or crocheted fabric, elastic or rubberised; and textile yarn, fabrics, made up articles and related products (other than textile clothing). [2] Details by quantity for the earlier years are not available on a basis directly comparable with those given for 1974 onwards.

Vehicle licensing centre

Donald Anderson (Swansea East) asked the Secretary of State for Industry, if he had made an assessment of the value to the British motor industry of the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Centre, Swansea.

Mr Williams replied that the centre provided a good deal of assistance to the motor industry in a number of ways. For example, representatives of the motor industry had emphasised the value of its rapid provision of statistical information on vehicle sales; this greatly assisted their own marketing and production planning. As a further example the centre had assisted manufacturers in organising recall campaigns for safety reasons.

Consumer advice centres

Eddie Loyden (Liverpool, Garston): asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if he remained satisfied with consumer advisory service; and what plans he had to extend and improve consumer protection and advice.

Mr Fraser said that the government had provided 100 per cent support for consumer advice centres over the past two years, with a consequent considerable expansion in this service. But he regretted that certain local authorities had rejected the government's support and closed some centres. A full list of plans for improvement of consumer protection and advice would make his answer excessively long, but as examples he mentioned that he had recently circulated proposals for new regulations on consumer credit, that an Order for Price Display for Food and Drink was laid before Parliament on 23 May and would come into effect on 1 July, and that the White Paper on Nationalised Industries (Comnd 7131) published on 5 April set out the government's plans for improving consumer protection in these industries.

Grain and flour prices

Nigel Spearing (Newham South) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if he would make a statement concerning the margins between current grain prices and the wholesale and retail prices of flour.

Mr Maclennan said that margins between current grain prices and the price of flour depended on a number of factors, including the type and source of grain and its date of purchase. The Monopolies and Mergers Commission were satisfied that the price of flour was not being manipulated to the detriment of consumers. He had no information which cast doubt on that finding.

Eye cosmetics

Joyce Butler (Haringey, Wood Green) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what effect the proposed cosmetic regulations would have on the legality of sale of lead-based, Asian-made eye cosmetics in the United Kingdom; and if he would make a statement.

Mr Fraser said that the proposed cosmetic products regulations would have the effect of prohibiting the sale in this country of eye cosmetics containing lead and its compounds.

Consumer protection regulations

Joyce Butler (Haringey, Wood Green) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, when he intended to make regulations under the Consumer Protection Act 1961 in relation to perambulators and pushchairs, projectile firing toys, cosmetic products and oil lamps.

Mr Fraser said that he hoped to make regulations relating to cosmetic products shortly and to make regulations dealing with perambulators and pushchairs and oil lamps before the end of the year. There were no immediate plans to make regulations for projectile firing toys. However, the new European standard for toys, which was in the final stages of drafting, would lay down specific requirements for 'toy projectiles'. It was the intention of the European commission that the standard should form the basis of an EEC directive on toys which would be implemented in the United Kingdom by legislation.

Sanitary protection prices

Robin Corbett (Hemel Hempstead) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what action he had taken on the recommendation of the Price Commission in its report on Southalls (Birmingham) Ltd into sanitary protection and other hygiene products, that the price of tampons should not be further increased before 23 December 1978; and with what result.

Mr Maclennan said that the company had offered the secretary of state undertaking to comply fully with the Price Commission's recommendation concerning the price of tampons and he had accepted it.

Price control orders

Dennis Skinner (Bolsover) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, how many price control orders he had issued since he assumed office.

Mr Hattersley replied that he had issued 22.

Retail price indices

Tony Durant (Reading North) asked what had been the increase in food prices since February 1974. David Knox (Leek) asked what was the increase in food prices since March 1974.

Mr Maclennan said that the retail food index had increased by 99.8 per cent since February 1974 and 97.6 per cent since March 1974. However, the latest figures showed that food prices increased by only 6.3 per cent between April 1977 and April 1978, the lowest annual rate since June 1970.

David Hunt (Wirral) and others asked what had been the monthly increase in the retail price index for the latest available month; what was the increase in prices since February 1974 to the latest available date and when the monthly increase in the retail price index last exceeded 1.5 per cent.

Mr Hattersley said that the retail prices index rose by 1.5 per cent in April: this had been the largest increase since April 1977 but the smallest April rise for six years. The increase since February 1974 had been 91.3 per cent.

Jim Lester (Beeston) asked what was the increase in prices over the last three months expressed at an annual rate.

Mr Hattersley said that the figure was 11.2 per cent.

Fergus Montgomery (Altincham and Sale) asked what was the rate of inflation over the last 12 months; and how this compared with the rate of inflation in West Germany.

Mr Hattersley said that the retail prices index rose by 7.9 per cent in the twelve months to April 1978. The rate of inflation in West Germany in the twelve months to April 1978 was 2.9 per cent, a difference of 5 per cent. The difference was less than it had been in February 1974.

Mr Timothy Smith (Ashfield) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, if he would give an estimate of the effect of the depreciation of the £ sterling on a trade weighted basis, since the Budget, on the retail price index.

Mr Hattersley said that each 1 per cent fall in the exchange rate added about ¼ per cent to the retail prices index, within about 12 months. The trade-weighted depreciation since the eve of the Budget had been 1.4 per cent.

Tony Newton (Braintree) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, whether he would estimate the effect on the Retail Price Index of the recent increase in interest rates.

Mr Hattersley said that changes in the minimum lending rate had no direct effect on the retail price index, but the 1¼ per cent increase in the mortgage rate would add about one third of one per cent to the index for as long as it was in operation. On the other hand the recent measures (which included an increase in minimum lending rate) would help to keep the money supply under control and thus avoid fuelling inflation.

Wholesale price index

Robin Hodgson (Walsall North) asked what was the change in industry's input prices over the last 12 months.

Mr Maclennan said that in the last 12 months the wholesale price index for the inputs to manufacturing industry had fallen from 348.1 in May 1977 to 341.8 in May 1978. This was a fall of 1.8 per cent.

Tyre pressure gauges

Andrew Faulds (Warley East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, when he expected to announce the introduction of a national tyre pressure gauge testing scheme which would give confidence in the accuracy of tyre pressure gauges.

Mr Fraser replied that comments received on the draft proposals for a voluntary tyre pressure gauge test scheme showed considerable support for the proposals, though some details needed to be settled by further discussion. A management committee, which would include representatives of local authorities and the motor trade, was now to be set up to consider implementation, and would advise him on a date for the scheme's introduction.

Agreements on stable prices

Timothy Smith (Ashfield) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, whether he would give a list of those items whose price manufacturers had agreed to hold stable until the end of the year in response to government pressures.

Mr Maclennan said that the government encouraged all firms to hold prices stable, and welcomed public statements from enterprises to this effect. No central record was maintained of such statements except for formal undertakings given to the secretary of state under the provisions of the Price Commission Act 1977.

Tuesday, 13 June

Codes of practice

Andrew Faulds (Warley East) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, when he expected the introduction of codes of practice for the tyre and furniture industries.

Mr Fraser said that he understood from the Director General of Fair Trading that it was hoped that the trade associations would agree to the introduction of the proposed code of practice for the furniture industry shortly. It was not possible to forecast when a code of practice for tyres would be introduced.

Ministers

Department of Industry

Secretary of State: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Alan Williams
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Robert Cryer
Leslie Huckfield

Department of Trade

Secretary of State: Edmund Dell
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Michael Meacher
Stanley Clinton Davis

Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State: Roy Hattersley
Minister of State: John Fraser
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Vinegar and RPI

Michael Brotherton (Louth) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what was his estimate of the effect on the retail price index if the European commission replaced vinegar made with non-brewed condiment with wine vinegar.

Mr Maclennan pointed out that no proposals to this effect had been put forward by the commission. A prohibition on the use of synthetic acetic acid (non-brewed condiment) for human consumption would be likely to have adverse effects on the cost of foods in whose manufacture or garnishing it was currently used, but it was not possible to give a precise estimate until specific proposals were made.

Proposed Albright and Wilson takeover

Keith Stainton (Sudbury and Woodbridge) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, what representations he had received from trades unions and others against the proposed takeover of Albright and Wilson by the United States conglomeration Tenneco; and if he would make a statement regarding reference to the monopolies commission.

Mr Fraser said that the secretary of state had received one letter from a trade union expressing concern about this proposed merger. He understood that the Office of Fair Trading had also received similar representations from a number of trade unions and the director general would no doubt take these into account in providing advice on the merger. The secretary of state would announce as soon as possible whether a reference was to be made to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Electronics industry

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked what approval the government had given to the National Enterprise Board for proposed investments in the electronics industry, particularly in micro-circuits; and whether he would make a statement.

Mr Huckfield replied that in addition to the relevant investments described in the board's annual report and accounts (*Trade and Industry* 12 May page 298), the secretary of state had given his consent under section 10 of the Industry Act 1975 to the board acquiring voting equity in a new company in this industry. He understood the board would publish further details in due course.

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked what was the government's policy on the future of the British electronics industry, particularly in the field of micro-circuits; and what assistance the government proposed to give to private industry in this field.

Mr Cryer replied that the electronics industry was an important sector of the government's Industrial Strategy on which government, industry and trade unions were co-operating. The developing strategy was reported regularly by the sector working parties concerned. Electronic components was a priority sector and micro-circuits its most important subsector, which already received about £5 million of support yearly through the Department of Industry. A greatly enlarged support programme for micro-circuits was under development.

Fluorspar reserves

T. H. H. Skeet (Bedford) asked what percentage of the United Kingdom reserves of fluorspar are located within the Peak District National Park; and what is the general location of mines operating in the United Kingdom.

Mr Cryer said that the available information about fluorspar reserves was not sufficient to enable those located within the Peak District National Park to be expressed as a percentage of the national total. The mines operating in the UK were located chiefly in Derbyshire (within the Peak District National Park) and at Upper Weardale in Northumberland/Durham.

Trade in manufactures

Douglas Jay (Wandsworth, Battersea North) asked the Secretary of State for Trade, what was the United Kingdom trade deficit with the EEC six in manufactures in the period January 1978 to May 1978 at an annual rate.

Mr Meacher said that figures for May were not yet available. The crude trade deficit, at an annual rate, based on non-seasonally adjusted data for the period January to April was £2 161 million

Electrical goods from Korea

John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he was satisfied with the state of imports of the Korean electrical goods; and if he had any further plans for reducing such imports.

Mr Meacher said that imports of electrical goods from Korea were relatively small (holding no more than 4 per cent in any sector). The only sector where there was significant competition with UK production was in portable black and white tv sets and there they were subject to quota restrictions.

Industrial democracy

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what evidence he had that substantiated the government's statement in its white paper on industrial democracy that industrial democracy would improve the efficiency of British industry.

Mr Clinton Davis pointed out that experience of companies in the UK and other European countries has led to a wide acceptance that procedures which involved employees in decisions on matters affecting their employment were likely to lead to better decisions, improved industrial relations and increased efficiency.

Wednesday, 14 June

Code of practice for travel agents

Jim Spicer (West Dorset) asked why, under the code of fair trading practice covering the travel agency business, travel agents were specificially authorised to impose surcharges when the exchange rate for the £ sterling falls, but was placed under no obligation under the code even to consider the making of refunds when the £ sterling exchange rate moved the other way.

Mr Fraser pointed out that the code of practice adhered to by members of the Association of British Travel Agents was drawn up in consultation with the Director General of Fair Trading under section 124 of the Fair Trading Act 1973. He said that he would therefore draw the director general's attention to the point raised by Mr Spicer.

Ironing boards with asbestos

Joyce Butler (Haringey, Wood Green) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection when he expected all ironing boards with asbestos rests to carry a warning label; what spot checks were made on these rests to check for safety.

Mr Fraser replied that all manufacturers of asbestos-containing products were expected to begin to attach a warning label to them from October 1976 when the voluntary labelling scheme had been introduced. He had no information on the extent to which ironing boards with asbestos rests now bore the label but he proposed to make some inquiries.

Sale of aerosols

Oonagh McDonald (Thurrock) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he intended to take any steps to prohibit or restrict the sale of aerosols containing hydro-carbon.

Mr Fraser said that he was not aware of any grounds on which such action would be justified.

Import and export of textiles

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked what was the value of exports by the United Kingdom of textiles for the years 1970 to the first quarter of 1978 at 1970 prices; and what was the volume of exports by the United Kingdom of textiles for this same period, with the volume for 1970 as 100; what was the value of imports of textiles, broken down as to where the merchandise came from, what kinds of merchandise were imported, and what they were made from, into the United Kingdom during the period 1970 to the first quarter of 1978, expressed at constant 1970 prices; and what was the relative volume of imports of textiles, broken down into the same categories into the UK during the same period, expressed as volume index numbers, taking 1970 to be equal to 100.

Mr Meacher gave the following information;

SITC (rev 2) division 65 – textile yarns, fabrics and made-up articles

	Volume index 1970 = 100		£m at 1970 constant prices	
	Export (fob) (1)	Import (cif) (2)	Export (fob) (3)	Import (cif) (4)
1970	100	100	418	260
1971	106	125	444	324
1972	111	139	466	361
1973	127	169	532	440
1974	125	172	522	449
1975	105	171	439	446
1976	123	188	513	491
1977	126	197	526	514
1978 1st qtr	126	234	131	152

Note: The index numbers for the period 1970 to 1975 are on a 1970 price basis; those for 1976 onwards are on a 1975 price basis. The constant price figures in columns (3) and (4) have been obtained by multiplying the index numbers in columns (1) and (2), respectively, by the value of trade in 1970.

Information in the above form is readily available only in respect of division 65. Further, the provision of information on imports in the detail requested would entail disproportionate cost. Figures of the value and volume (by weight and occasionally number or square metres) of textile imports, analysed by country of consignment, are available as follows:

Years 1970 to 1974: Annual statements of the *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*

Years 1975 to 1977: December 1975, annual 1976 and December 1977 issues of *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*

First quarter 1978: March 1978 issue of *Overseas Trade Statistics of the United Kingdom*

These published figures prior to 1978 are on the basis of SITC (rev 1); those from 1978 are on SITC (rev 2).

Liability of oil tankers

Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he had any plans to bring forward legislation to make the owners of oil tankers liable for the cost of damage caused by oil spillage at sea within British waters.

Mr Clinton Davis said that such legislation already existed. Under the Merchant Shipping (Oil Pollution) Act 1971 shipowners were made strictly liable, within monetary limits specified by international agreement, for oil pollution damage caused to the United Kingdom and its territorial sea by ships carrying bulk oil cargoes.

Trade with Iran

Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what was his latest estimate of the total gross value of trade in manufactured goods with Iran.

Mr Meacher gave the following information;

MAY 1977–APRIL 1978	£ million
UK exports (fob)	583.3
UK imports (cif)	23.3
Gross value of trade (exports (fob) plus imports (cif)	606.6

Source: UK *Overseas Trade Statistics* (SITC section 5–8 inclusive on rev 2 basis).

Thursday, 15 June

Product and process development

Dudley Smith (Warwick and Leamington) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what was the regional breakdown of the product and process development scheme in members and financial assistance; how many grants have been made under the scheme instituted by his department in July 1977; and whether he was satisfied that the scheme instituted by his department was working satisfactorily.

Mr Cryer gave the following information:

Region	Offer made	Potential financial contribution
		£K
London and south-east	10	961.6
W Midlands	2	34.3
Northern	4	117.8
Yorks and Humberside	3	188.5
E Midlands	2	64.8
South-west	2	70.4
North-west	1	40.4
Eastern	2	76.7
Scotland	1	20.0
London and south-east/ north-west collaborative	1	36.0
Total	28	1 670.5

He said that at 31 May 1978 a total of 43 projects had been approved and 28 offers of grant already made to companies under the product and process development scheme which represented potential financial assistance to industry of £2.5 million and £1.7 million respectively. He pointed out that the scheme was announced less than a year ago. As with all projects of this nature there was an initial familiarisation period during which some delays inevitably occurred. The position was now much improved but nevertheless his department was continuing to keep a close watch on its progress

Footwear assistance scheme

John Garrett (Norwich South) asked how many firms in Norwich had asked for government assistance under the footwear assistance scheme.

Mr Cryer said that five formal applications and a further four firm inquiries had been received to date from footwear and footwear component manufacturers in the Norwich area.

Industrial units at Todmorden

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked the Secretary of State for Industry whether he had approved provision, by the Development Commission, of small industrial units at Todmorden, supplementing his department's advance factory programme in the area.

Mr Cryer replied that he had informed the chairman of the Development Commission that he would have no objection to financial assistance being given from the development fund for seven 900 ft² factories to be built by the Calderdale District Council at Todmorden.

Competitiveness of wool industry

Max Madden (Sowerby) asked what representations had been made to the council of ministers of the EEC about the unfair competition faced by the British woollen industry from woollen industries in other EEC countries which had lower water and effluent disposal charges than Great Britain.

Mr Cryer said that no representations had yet been made to the EEC council of ministers about the disparities between member states in charges for water and trade effluent disposal which were faced by the wool industry. The Departments of the Environment and Industry were currently examining the recently submitted report of the joint Yorkshire Water Authority/Wool Textile Delegation working party, which was set up to examine this problem and the effects of these charges on the competitiveness of the UK wool industry. The intention was to come to decisions on the various recommendations of the report as quickly as possible.

UK companies investment overseas

Kenneth Clarke (Rushcliffe) asked the Secretary of State for Industry what studies his department was carrying out of investment by British companies overseas.

Mr Cryer replied that the department had completed a pilot study which had indicated that a full research project aimed at obtaining more information on the reasons for investing overseas would need particularly careful design and management. On the basis of this preliminary work, the department hoped to proceed with the full project as soon as possible.

Silver jubilee year

Toby Jessel (Twickenham) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what proportion of the increase in foreign currency receipts from tourism in 1977 he estimated to be attributable to the royal silver jubilee year.

Mr Meacher said that it was not possible to estimate the effect of the royal silver jubilee on foreign currency receipts from tourism, though the table below showed a very big increase throughout the period 2nd quarter 1976 to 3rd quarter 1977.

	Earnings £ million	% increase on previous year	Numbers (000)	% increase on previous year
1976				
1st qtr	211	22	1 472	—
2nd	351	44	2 399	14
3rd	656	45	3 974	13
4th	415	63	2 227	28
		year 45		year 14
1977				
1st qtr	332	57	1 867	27
2nd	496	41	2 909	21
3rd	850	30	4 477	13
4th	501	21	2 237	—
		year 34		year 14

The table shows the quarterly value of foreign currency earnings from overseas visitors and the numbers of such visitors as published in *Business Monitor M6, Overseas Travel and Tourism*, and based on the international passenger survey. Percentage comparisons on the same quarter a year previous are given.

Coastal oil pollution

Peter Mills (West Devon) asked the Secretary of State for Trade in view of the potential dangers to the south-west of England and its coastline from oil pollution, what positive steps he would now take to reduce the risk of coastal pollution from oil tankers passing through the south-west approaches.

Mr Clinton Davis said that in consultation with the French government and the UK's own shipping interests, measures to promote the safety of navigation in the south western approaches were being reviewed urgently with a view to submitting proposals to the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organisation at the end of July. The contingency plans for dealing with pollution threatening UK coasts were also under review.

Cheddar cheese exports

Peter Mills (West Devon) asked the Secretary of State for Trade how many tons of English Cheddar cheese had been exported from the United Kingdom since 1 January 1978; and to which countries.

Mr Meacher said that separate figures in respect of English Cheddar cheese are not available. Following are the details of Cheddar cheese exported from the United Kingdom in the period January-April 1978:

	Tonnes
Total	1 800
of which exported to:	
Netherlands	574
Irish Republic	309
Belgium-Luxembourg	167
Federal Republic of Germany	161
France	133
Denmark	113
Saudi Arabia	64
Portugal	59
Gibraltar	29
Dominica, St Lucia and St Vincent	22
USA	18
Bahamas	13
Australia	13
Nigeria	13
Iran	11
St Helena	10
Other countries (33 in all)	89

Source: UK Overseas Trade Statistics (SITC (rev 2) 024.0 part).

Export to Ivory Coast

Christopher Brocklebank-Fowler (North West Norfolk) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would list the principal exports from the United Kingdom to the Ivory Coast.

Mr Meacher gave the following information:

sitc(r) sub-group/ item	Description	Value £'000 fob
712.50	Tractors, other than road tractors for tractor-trailer combinations	2 080
718.42	Excavating, levelling, boring, etc, machinery	1 600
718.39	Food processing machines (excluding domestic) other than for milling grain or for the working of cereals or dried leguminous vegetables	1 587
112.40	Distilled alcoholic beverages	1 557
122.20	Cigarettes	1 547
581.20	Polymerisation and copolymerisation products (eg, polyethylene, polystyrene, polyvinylchloride)	1 073
531.01	Synthetic organic dyestuffs and natural indigo	882
719.64	Spraying machinery	839
719.23	Centrifuges (other than cream separators) and filtering and purifying machinery for liquids and gases	601
695.10	Hand tools of a kind mainly used in agriculture or forestry	515
	Other goods	12 892
	Total exports	25 173

The table gives details of those categories of goods where UK exports to the Ivory Coast in 1977 amounted to over £500,000. These accounted for about one half of the UK's total exports to the Ivory Coast.

Imports of electrical goods from Japan

John Lee (Birmingham, Handsworth) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he was satisfied with the effectiveness of his measures to abate the inflow of Japanese electrical goods into the United Kingdom; and if he had any plans for securing the further reduction of such imports.

Mr Dell said that the British industry, with his support, had held discussions with the Japanese industry about electrical products such as televisions and music-centres and was meeting the Japanese industry again later this month. He had at present no plans for further action.

Architects' services

Robin F. Cook (Edinburgh Central) asked the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection if he was now in a position to make a statement on the government's response to the recommendations of 'he report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on architects services; and if he envisaged any consequent amendment to the Architects Registration Act 1938.

Mr Fraser replied that the secretary of state had announced when the report of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission on the supply of architects' services with reference to scale fees was published in November 1977 that he agreed with the commission's conclusions that the architects' monopoly in relation to scale fees operated against the public interest in a number of specified respects. Since then the Director General of Fair Trading had been holding discussions with the professional bodies about the action that should be taken and the amendments that might be necessary to their rules. It was unlikely that amendments to the architects registration acts would be necessary.

Friday, 16 June

Performing rights tribunal

Sir Stephen McAdden (Southend East) asked the Secretary of State for Trade what steps were taken by his department to keep the performing rights tribunal aware of current government policy about requests for indexation of tariff charges for the public use of monopoly property in copyright music.

Mr Clinton Davis said that the performing right tribunal was an independent statutory authority established by parliament by virtue of part IV of the Copyright Act 1956. It was empowered to settle disputes over terms of certain collective licensing schemes for the public performance of copyright music by determining what it considered to be reasonable in the circumstances and there was no provision for government intervention in its proceedings. A music user bringing a case would undoubtedly remind the tribunal of any relevant government policies.

Tariffs on fish from Norway and Iceland

Roger Moate (Faversham) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if he would list the principal tariffs applied to fish imported from Norway and Iceland, respectively.

Mr Meacher said that for imports into the EEC of fresh, chilled or frozen fish, the duty on Norwegian cod, haddock and coal-fish was 15 per cent, and Icelandic 3.7 per cent. For plaice and whiting imports from Norway and Iceland were charged 15 per cent.

Imports from Portugal

Doug Hoyle (Nelson and Colne) asked the Secretary of State for Trade if the current proposal by the EEC commission regarding the level of textile imports from Portugal was acceptable to the government; whether the government would have the right to introduce bilateral quotas under its own authority at the same rate as the levels agreed with the commission on 20 December 1977; and if not, what means were available to the government to ensure that the levels of Portugese imports were no higher than those of 20 December 1977.

Mr Dell said that the EEC commission's proposals on textile imports from Portugal were discussed at the council of ministers on 6 June, and it was made clear that they presented particular difficulties for UK. Further discussions would take place. Under the relevant community law it was possible for the UK to introduce bilateral quotas under its own authority. But any such action by a member state would have to be approved by the commission (who may also propose amendments). If the commission did not approve the action then it could be put to the council of ministers. If neither the commission nor the council of ministers were willing to approve it then the action would automatically be annulled.

Equipment for Oil Recovery International

Robert Adley (Christchurch and Lymington) asked if Warren Spring Laboratory had yet tested at sea the equipment of Oil Recovery International.

Mr Kaufman said that Oil Recovery International equipment had now been supplied to Warren Spring Laboratory. It was being mounted on their research vessel *Seaspring* and the first series of tests at sea was planned for completion by mid-July.

European community news

Applicants sought for recycling programme

Research into recycling paper and board is to be carried out by the European commission in a three-year programme starting this year and ending on 31 December 1980. Applications for participation in this programme are now invited.

A total of 2.9 million European units of account have been allocated to this programme, which will have four main research topics including characterisation of reclaimed fibres, their upgrading by various processes, and the effects of multiple recycling on paper-making fibres; elimination of the detrimental effect of contaminants in waste paper, including the dispersion of thermosoftening contaminants; de-inking, including the relationship between different types of ink and de-inking, and the treatment of effluent from waste paper recycling plants; and the use of urban fibres, including technological characterisation of fibres in solid waste and health problems caused by the use of recycled fibres.

The work will be carried out by appropriate organisations in member states and the commission wishes to receive proposals for participation in this research and development programme, by means of shared-cost contracts (generally on a 50/50 per cent basis). The proposals may be submitted by any person, institution or association of persons within the territory of a member state, and should include detailed information on the applicant, and the nature and cost of the research. Proposals should be submitted prior to 15 July 1978, and will be treated confidentially.

Forms for the presentation of the proposals as well as any further information, including any detail on research topics, may be obtained from The Commission of the European Communities, Directorate General XII, Research, Science and Education, Environment and Raw Materials Research Programmes, 200 Rue de la Loi, B 1049 Brussels. Further information, including tender documents, may also be obtained in the UK from Mr A. Marriott, British Paper and Board Industry Federation, Plough Place, Fetter Lane, London tel. 01-353 5222, or Dr R. C. Dobbie, PTM Division, Department of Industry, Ashdown House, 123 Victoria Street, London SW1, tel. 01-212 8984.

More community news

Information on European community matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

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Feoga grants available for capital projects

There will be a limited amount of money in 1978 for grants towards the cost of projects falling within the scope of regulation 17/64/EEC, the EEC commission has decided. These grants are payable towards the cost of projects in agricultural and fisheries production structures, but not processing or marketing or the development of marketing outlets. The government of the member state concerned, must approve each project and be prepared to contribute to its financing, but the decision whether or not to give a Feoga – the common agricultural policy's guarantee fund – grant, or to what extent, rests with the EEC commission.

Projects will be judged on their merits. Since the commission may wish to vary the emphasis on particular aspects of the common agricultural policy, a project does not automatically qualify because a similar project has been previously approved. The main features of the scheme are that grant-aid will be available only for physical investment, for example, in buildings and equipment, consideration will normally only be given to projects costing £75,000 or more; investment that is eligible for Feoga assistance under any other community-wide measure will not be eligible for this individual project aid. For this reason, projects concerned with the marketing or processing of agricultural products, which are eligible for aid under regulation 355/77/EEC, cannot be considered; nor can improvements to farms or horticultural holdings (buildings, field drainage, water supply, etc.), because investment of this kind is the subject of the community's farm modernisation directive (72/159/EEC) which was implemented in the United Kingdom on 1 January 1974.

Installing tachographs would cost £100m – Rodgers

In answer to a parliamentary question on 7 June, William Rodgers, Secretary of State for Transport, said that he was happy to see voluntary agreements for the use of the tachograph.

'It is wholly understood that the tachograph must be used for international journeys,' Mr Rodgers said. 'The only question at issue is whether there should be compulsory fitting of the tachograph at home. I have also made my view clear on that aspect.'

On the cost of tachographs, Mr Rodgers said: 'The assumption about the compulsory fitment of tachographs is that it would cost about £100 million overall, with recurring annual costs of about £40 million. What no one has been able to put a precise figure on is what resultant savings there might be in productivity. Certainly there would be a substantial initial cost.'

Mr Rodgers said that the UK would have to see what the timetable for proceedings in the European court might be.

'It has been made clear that we are to be referred to the court, but I do not think that the reference has yet taken place.'

Extension of the import period for French new potatoes

Under the Importation of Plants, Plant Produce and Potatoes (Health) (Great Britain) Order 1971 the importation of potatoes from most of mainland France is prohibited between 1 July and 14 October as a safeguard against the introduction of colorado beetle. Following discussions with the French Plant Health Service earlier this year agreement has been reached to a short extension of the period during which imports are permitted from specified areas of France to take account of the late growing season. The plant health branch of the ministry has issued a licence to the French Ministry of Agriculture under the 1971 import order permitting the entry of new potatoes from France except from the departments of Pyrenees Orientales, Aude, Herault, Gard, Bouches du Rhone, Var and Alpes Maritimes until midnight on 15 July.

All consignments imported under licence will be subject to strict plant health conditions and the French Plant Health Service will endorse phytosanitary certificates to confirm

that those conditions have been complied with.

The ministry's plant pathology laboratory has advised that due to climatic conditions this spring colorado beetle populations in potato areas in France will be slow to build up and therefore an additional fortnight of imports is unlikely to increase the normal risk of the arrival of beetles in this country on new potatoes. Nevertheless the ministry's plant health and seeds inspectors will be paying particular attention to these imports.

Amendments to customs notice 828 now available

A printing dispute held up the availability of amendments 1 and 2 to customs notice 828 (*Trade and Industry*, 17 March 1978), but both are now available and may be obtained on request at any local office of Customs and Excise.

Amendment 1, dated February 1978, is concerned with the changes in origin rules following recent amendments of the CCC nomenclature and also with the introduction of a new rule for goods put up in sets. Amendment 2, dated March 1978, brings section 7 of appendix B of the notice (which concerns GSP) into line with the origin rules adopted in the 1978 GSP arrangements.

The printing delays mentioned above means that both amendments have been overtaken by the entry into force of the additional protocol to the Cyprus agreement (*Trade and Industry*, 12 May). Consequently, paragraph 2 on the introductory page of both amendments should be amended by the deletion of the references to Cyprus and to notice 819.

The red-printed inserted page, dated January 1978 and issued with notice 828, should be amended by the deletion of paragraph 1 (now covered by amendment 1) and by the deletion of the references to Cyprus and to notice 819 in paragraph 2.

The steel crisis: the Davignon plan

In order to help the community steel industry, which had been suffering heavy losses as a result of the worst steel recession for many years, EEC foreign ministers met in December 1977, and agreed on a number of measures put forward by Viscount Davignon, the European commissioner for steel. Below is a summary of the Davignon plan.

Internal measures

Early in 1977 the commission introduced guidance on prices and deliveries for a range of steel products together with mandatory minimum prices for reinforcing bars. The further measures introduced at the end of December included an increase in the guidance prices and the extension of the mandatory minimum prices to include merchant bars and hot rolled wide strip. Stockholders were obliged to observe the mandatory minimum prices. A certificate of conformity was also introduced so that the commission could monitor whether the minimum prices were being observed.

Although the commission's measures had a beneficial effect in helping to stabilise the market they were put in jeopardy by the non-co-operation of certain European producers of reinforcing bars and merchant bars. Recently as part of its policy in tightening the measures the commission has imposed fines on five community undertakings (four Italian and one French). Four of these were for failing to observe the minimum prices and one for failing to keep records of transactions. Further administrative measures to ensure observance of its measures are at present being formulated by the commission.

External measures

As agreed at the council of ministers in December 1977, the European commission has been negotiating with major third country steel suppliers with the object of securing agreements on the volume and prices of their exports of steel to the community in 1978. So far agreements have been concluded with the Efta countries, (Austria, Finland, Norway, Portugal, Sweden and Switzerland), and with Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Japan, Romania, South Africa and Spain. With the exception of the Efta countries the agreements provide for restraints on volume in 1978 and that their selling prices should not be below community producers' delivered prices by more than 6 per cent in the case of bulk steels, and 4 per cent for special steels. There are no tonnage restrictions in the agreements with Efta countries but they have agreed to observe normal patterns of trade and their penetration margin is restricted to 3 per cent. The agreements also include a reference to the need to avoid disruption in the market for primary transformation products (mainly non-ECSC steel products such as steel tube). Community producers are prevented from aligning on offers of iron and steel products originating in those countries with which agreements have been concluded.

As an immediate measure pending the negotiation of these agreements the commission published at the end of December a list of basic import prices for imports of steel products from third countries which are subject to community surveillance licensing. The basic prices were established by the commission based on the lowest cost in supplying countries where there are normal conditions of competition. Imports received at less than these prices are liable to be subject to anti-dumping duties, a number of which have since been imposed.

Liberal regime for international freight transport – Rodgers

Secretary of State for Transport William Rodgers has welcomed a 20 per cent increase in the number of licences allocated under the multilateral quota. He was speaking on 1 June to the council of ministers of the European conference of ministers of transport at the Palais d'Egmont, Brussels.

'Those countries like the UK who are not affected by problems of transit traffic should nevertheless be sympathetic to those like Austria who are,' Mr Rodgers said. 'However, I want to enter "an intellectual reservation" about any discriminatory action. We have agreed that transport should meet economic and social needs. While it makes clear sense to subsidise passenger transport I cannot see the logic of this for freight. In particular, I cannot see the merit in protecting rail from legitimate competition.

'Both road and rail transport have their separate roles within an integrated transport policy and should pay the costs properly attributable to them and then maintain themselves by the cost-effectiveness of their own activities. If we want to move forward we should be ready to do so on the basis of a more liberal regime – but only in circumstances where this makes good economic sense.'

EIB loan for Merseyside metals industry scheme

Half of the cost of a modernisation project at the BICC Metals Ltd works at Prescot, Merseyside, will be covered by a European Investment Bank loan for the equivalent of £5 million, 7.4 million units of account.

The finance has been provided for 10 years at an interest rate of 10.25 per cent. Most will go towards a new electrolytic copper refinery, total production capacity 55 000 tpa which will meet part of the BICC group's own requirements for high purity copper in the manufacture of wire and cable products.

This investment is expected to bring about lower production costs and substantial energy savings. For EIB the main interest is that the project will safeguard the jobs of about 350 men.

EEC information

Free service for businessmen!
The EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by answering general questions about EEC membership and by guiding them where necessary to more specialised information sources.
New customers are always welcome, particularly firms new to EEC questions.
The unit's address is:
EEC Information Unit,
Department of Industry,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET.
Tel. 01-215 4301 (six lines).

Temporary suspension of the CCT: other member states requests

Details of requests for new suspension of the CCT (common customs tariff) to operate from 1 January 1979 were published in *Trade and Industry* on 2 June. The EEC commission has now informed the department of further requests in respect of the products listed below. Total suspension is sought in each instance.

CCT heading/Description

ex 03.01 B Ih)
Cod, fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces, intended for the processing industry
ex 03.01 B Iij)
Coalfish, fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces, intended for the processing industry
ex 03.01 B Ik)
Haddock, fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces, intended for the processing industry
ex 03.01 B Iq)
Hake, fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces, intended for the processing industry
ex 03.01 B IIa) and B IIb)7
Fillets of hake, fresh, chilled or frozen, whole, headless or in pieces, intended for the processing industry
ex 28.13 IJ
Tellurium dioxide
ex 28.26 B
Lithium hydroxide monohydrate
ex 29.06 B V
2,5-Bis(*tert*-pentyl)hydroquinone
ex 29.14 A IIc)4
20-Oxopregna-5,16-dien-38-yl acetate
ex 29.16 A VIIIa)
2,2-Bis(hydroxymethyl)propionic acid
ex 29.25 A II
(3-Methacrylamidopropyl)trimethylammonium chloride
ex 29.29
N,N-Diethylhydroxylamine
ex 29.35 Q
5-Methyl-1,3,4-thiadiazole-2-thiol
ex 29.35 Q
4-[(Chloroformyl)methylthio]pyridinium chloride
ex 29.42 C VII
(22*R*,25*R*)-Tomate5-enin-38-ol (Solasodine)
ex 30.03 B IIb)
Liquid *gamma*-globulin in doses
ex 30.03 B IIb)
500 mg of lyophylised *gamma*-globulin in doses
ex 30.03 A IIb) and 35.07
Urokinase (INN)
ex 38.19 F II
Synthetic zeolites based on an aluminasilicate framework containing not less than 6.6 per cent and not more than 13.3 per cent by weight of silicon
ex 38.19 U
A mixture of *N*-(2-methyl-2-nitropropyl)-4-nitrosoaniline and an inert substance, containing not less than 65 per cent by weight of the filler
ex 39.02 C XI
Polyvinyl butryal with tinted strip imprinted on both sides
ex 39.02 C XII
Poly(2-diethylaminoethyl methacrylate) dissolved in *N,N*-dimethylacetamide with a polymer content of not less than 55 per cent by weight
ex 39.02 C XII
A solution of a copolymer of decyl methacrylate and 2-di-isopropylaminoethyl methacrylate, in *N,N*-dimethylacetamide, containing not less than 55 per cent by weight of copolymer
ex 39.02 C XII
Copolymer of acrylic acid and 2-ethylhexyl acrylate containing not less than 10 per cent and not more than 11 per cent by weight of 2-ethylhexylacrylate
ex 39.02 C XIVa)
Poly(1-ethylethylene) (polybut-1-ene)
ex 70.20 B
Yarns of 33 tex or a multiple thereof, obtained from continuous glass fibres with a diameter of between 2.54 and 5.07 micrometres, that can be spun, other than those treated for adhesion of elastomers
ex 75.04 A
Tubes of non alloyed nickel of 99 per cent purity with a tolerance on straightness of max 1 mm on a length of 150 cm and with an outside diameter of:
−213.36 mm with a tolerance of max +0.64 mm
−209.95 mm with a tolerance of max +0.64 mm
−168.28 mm with a tolerance of max +0.5 mm

The department will wish to take account of UK interests in making its views known to the EEC before decisions are taken whether to grant these proposed suspensions.

UK producers of the goods in question or of like or competing products are entitled to object where they consider that they are able to supply the whole or the greater part of the needs of the community and that their interests would be adversely affected by suspension or reduction of the CCT. Producers wishing to object to the granting of these suspensions should provide as much as possible of the following information:

1 estimated community (nine countries including the UK) demand in 1978 and 1979;
2 estimated UK demand in 1978 and 1979;
3 UK production expected to be available in 1978 and 1979 for:
3.1 the UK market in 1978 and 1979;
3.2 the rest of the community in 1978 and 1979;
3.3 exports to other countries in the same years.

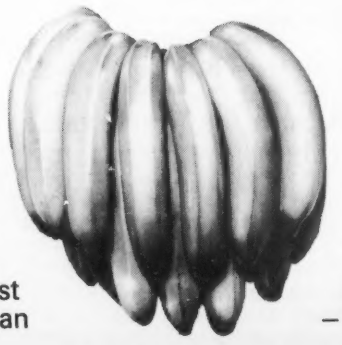
This information should be sent in writing to the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 332, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, to arrive not later than 7 July 1978.

Inquiries: 01-215 3576.

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news. Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

WHEN WE MOVED INTO THE NORTH SEA THEY THOUGHT WE WERE BANANAS



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Still small enough to care

EEC – your questions answered

This week, we are publishing a selection of questions put to the Department of Industry's EEC Information Unit during the past month.

The unit helps businessmen by answering general questions about EEC membership. Its prime responsibility is with those matters which are the concern of the Departments of Industry, Trade, Prices and Consumer Protection, but it is usually possible to direct an inquirer to sources of specialist advice in other government departments.

Contact the unit by ringing 01-215 4301 (six lines) or by writing to the EEC Information Unit, Department of Industry, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Itinerant selling

What EEC regulations must I comply with when taking goods to other European community countries to sell direct to the public?

There are no EEC regulations but anyone wishing to take goods to another member state of the EEC to sell directly to the public without using a resident agent should remember that such activities are controlled by national laws and that conditions vary from country to country.

In Belgium it is necessary to satisfy a residential qualification before a permit to sell directly to the public can be obtained. In France nationals of EEC member states do not now need to comply with the five year residence requirement which is demanded of other foreigners and it is possible for UK citizens to undertake itinerant activities provided they first obtain a 'Livret special de circulation'.

Itinerant selling is virtually prohibited in Denmark by national laws.

In the Netherlands street traders must obtain a licence normally issued by the local police, although police regulations vary from town to town. Door-to-door salesmen must register with a Dutch chamber of commerce.

Market trading only is allowed in Luxembourg and a licence must be obtained from the appropriate government department.

For the Federal Republic of Germany residence permits are not required. Registration with the police is only required for an extended stay. A trading licence is necessary and is obtainable from the local authorities. You would also be subject to trade tax.

In the Republic of Ireland foreigners are readily allowed to trade in the street, market place or door to door, provided the trader has obtained a licence from the appropriate authority.

In Italy itinerant salesmen must register with the chamber of commerce for the area in which they wish to trade. This registration is valid for the whole country. In addition, an authorisation must be obtained from the local municipal authorities in the area in which trading is to be conducted. Special regulations govern the supply of food and drink, and also trade in harbour areas, airports, stations and motorways.

All EEC customs authorities require import duties and VAT to be paid on the goods at the point of entry. However there are no import duties on goods of UK manufacture or in 'free circulation' in the UK providing a T2 or T2L are used. In the Netherlands the VAT inspector will wish to see anyone intending to sell goods direct to the public to tell them how to keep records of their transactions and supply them with the relevant VAT forms. Import duty is not refunded on unsold items although VAT may be refundable on submission of a Dutch customs and excise certificate. Duty and VAT are refundable in Germany and Italy if the goods are re-exported under the control of the customs authorities. Regular traders who are established in France, Belgium and Luxembourg should register with the VAT authorities – if not established, a responsible representative should be appointed – and they are then able to recover VAT payments in the form of quarterly returns. VAT cannot, however, be recovered if trading is on an occasional basis. Import duties are not refunded on goods imported for sale.

In all countries vehicles used to transport goods must of course conform to national specifications.

Because of the difficulties that may be encountered in the direct selling of goods in other EEC countries, UK exporters proposing to undertake such business should get further information from the appropriate country desk of the Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section of the Department of Trade, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 408/7174 (EEC general inquiries), 423 (France), 408 (Denmark), 288 (Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg), 466 (Italy, Irish Republic), and 467 (West Germany).

Units of account

What are the different uses and values of the various types of unit of account in the EEC?

The unit of account is the unit of value used by the EEC to express the amounts of money involved in community activities and policies. Not a currency in itself but a *numeraire* or common denominator (enabling sums to be both expressed in a common unit and easily converted into member states' currencies) and an accounting device, the unit of account was defined in 1962 as identical in gold value to the US dollar (0.88867088 grams). This enabled the EEC to use the conversion rates already established between the member states' currencies and the dollar for its own purposes; important among these was the business of the common agricultural policy stemming from the fixing of common prices.

During the years of stable exchange rates units of account could thus be expressed simply in dollars or converted, as could the market values of the EEC currencies themselves, through the gold-based parities declared with the International Monetary Fund. But since 1971 the gold-based value of the unit of account has ceased to be directly convertible into the market values of the national currencies as these fluctuated away from the IMF parities. Its value as a *numeraire* has therefore been eroded and it is now in the process of being replaced by the European unit of account, which is a basket of community currencies.

The units of account currently in use are:

European unit of account (EUA). Since the beginning of this year, the EUA has been in general use for budgetary purposes in the EEC. It is also used by the European Investment Bank, the European Coal and Steel Community and for the European Development Fund (which finances the Lomé convention). The value of the EUA in a given community currency equals the sum of fixed amounts of each member states currency, determined when the 'basket' was first composed according to the member state's gross national product and relative trading strengths. The commission publishes these values daily, and the rates are given in the *Financial Times*.

Agricultural unit of account. There is no separate 'agricultural' unit of account as such, but a series of separate 'representative rates' at which the unit of account 'in which common prices are expressed and farm trade conducted' is converted into the national currencies. These special rates had their origins as far back as 1969 when the devaluation of the French franc and revaluation of the Deutschemark necessitated a change in those currencies' conversion rates. There was already a separate representative rate used for sterling by the time the UK entered the EEC – but the major changes have been made by successive council decisions since June 1973. The still considerable differences that remain between many currencies' market values and these 'representative rates' or 'green' currencies are made up by monetary compensatory amounts (acting in the case of the UK, as in the case of other members with devalued currencies, as a subsidy on imports).

Gold-based unit of account. This will survive, temporarily, for certain customs purposes, but should be replaced by the EUA by the beginning of 1979. The conversion rate is 2.4 ua = £1 (this represents the last official parity declared to the IMF under the old articles of agreement).

European monetary unit of account. This has the same value as the gold-based unit of account and is used solely for transactions by the European Monetary Co-operation Fund.

EUR. This is the unit used by the EEC's statistical office to express amounts equal in value to the gold-based unit of account.

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Overseas trade news

OECD trade pledge must be part of wider strategy – Dell

Doubts were expressed by Secretary of State for Trade Edmund Dell about the relevance of the OECD trade pledge to the problems faced by the world today.

In a statement to the OECD ministerial meeting in Paris on 15 June, at which all countries renewed the trade pledge for a further year, Mr Dell said that these doubts were shared by many of his colleagues at the meeting. The problems were no less worrying and were perhaps more worrying than those which faced the OECD when the pledge was first formulated.

The pledge, Mr Dell said was essentially directed to the massive balance of payments problems created by the sudden and drastic increase in the price of oil. 'It was an expression at the political level of the willingness of each of us to accept our share in that problem and not to take any action to pass it on to others,' he said, but even as such it had not been entirely successful.

He said the problems faced today were in many ways very different. OECD countries still had to live with a major balance of payments deficit with the oil producing countries. There were also the strains arising from the different surplus and deficit situations. Just as relevant to the policy issues which countries faced in the short and medium-term was the need to find ways to recover from an economic depression which, in depth and duration, had been unparalleled since the 1930s and which could come to threaten the whole international trading system.

'Now I understand why colleagues feel that it may be helpful, as an expression of our recognition of that fact, to renew the pledge for one more year. All of us wish to avoid a breakdown in the international trading system and therefore we are, once more, content to join in renewal,' he said. 'But I must make clear on what basis we are prepared to do so.'

First, Mr Dell stressed, forswearing protectionism would only be one element in a total strategy, and a negative element at that. While employment remained at its present level, the already strong pressures for protectionism would become progressively stronger; and in democratic governments, a point can be reached where the pressures were irresistible. 'The question is what positive elements member nations here can deploy to raise the world out of depression. We need a total strategy to get the world economy moving again, not just this pledge. Unless we can get the world economy moving again, the present international trading system will continue to crumble, pledge or no pledge.'

He believed that only by concerted international action could this problem of immense importance to richer and poorer countries alike be effectively tackled. 'That is why my prime minister has proposed a strategy based on five major elements. The encouragement of international trade is one. The others are action to conserve and develop energy resources, action to improve the stability of exchange rates, direct action to promote economic expansion in the industrialised countries and to promote long term capital flows, including aid. These points are interrelated; action in one area will help to prepare the way for action in the others.'

Mr Dell said that the UK was prepared to renew the trade pledge because of its obvious relevance to encouraging world trade, 'but we see it as an integral part of this wider strategy which we hope will commend itself not only to participants in this meeting today but also to the heads of government who will be meeting next month.

UK-Hungarian joint commission discusses further co-operation

Hopes that UK and Hungarian firms could develop mutually beneficial co-operation agreements, especially in third countries were expressed during the sixth session of the UK-Hungarian joint commission held in London from 12 to 16 June. The Hungarian side had mentioned that there were fewer co-operation agreements with UK companies than with major competitors.

It was also decided that small and medium-sized UK firms should be brought into closer contact with Hungarian enterprises than in the past.

Other areas in which possible co-operation arrangements should be examined were: the agricultural industry, thermal power stations, mining projects, telecommunications and railways.

In discussions on the degree of co-operation in science and technology the Hungarian side felt that more attention should be given to medicine, agriculture, engineering and solid-state physics. New proposals for co-operation were made for the use of heat-resisting materials in metallurgy, the design and testing of machine tools, and in communications techniques using integrated circuits.

Consideration was giving to holding symposia and the commission felt that one on pesticides would be a good choice for the first.

Both delegations shared the view that the existing contacts, proposals for a symposium and the development of long-term research co-operation would create favourable conditions for eventual industrial co-operation and other commercial opportunities.

The commission agreed that a continuation of contacts at all levels particularly those at a commercial level would make a significant contribution to developing the low level of trade between the two countries. Missions by the Manchester and Birmingham chambers of commerce and industry, the Development Corporation of Wales, the National Coal Board/Association of British Mining Exporters and the Hungarian machine tool mission were cited as examples of those developing contacts. The commission identified, mining, metalworking machinery and agriculture as fields for future missions.

Leaders of the Hungarian and UK delegations sign the protocol at the end of the joint commission meeting.

The Hungarian delegation was led by Dr Bela Szalai, State Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Trade and the UK delegation by William Knighton, a deputy secretary at the Department of Trade. The UK delegation also included three industrial representatives Mr R. French of ICI, Mr A. Wright of Humphrys and Glasgow and Mr J. Bigwood of Saltrust Engineering.

Training is subject of two maritime conferences

'There is evidence that human fallibility is responsible for 80 per cent of all oil shipping casualties,' said Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping speaking to the opening session of the Imco (Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organisation) conference on training and certification in London on 14 June.

The greatest single factor which led directly to an accident, disaster or even a near miss was human failing he said. 'We all know that what-

Romania signs for BAC one-elevens and R-R Spey engines

A phased programme of manufacture and assembly under licence of complete BAC one-eleven aircraft in Romanian factories in parallel with continuing production in Britain was agreed when agreements were signed on 15 June at British Aerospace, Filton (Bristol) during the visit to that plant by the President of Romania, Nicolae Ceausescu.

The programme embraces around 80 aircraft over the next 15 years, valued at some hundreds of millions of dollars.

The signing by Gheorghe Boldur, Deputy Minister of Machine Building Industry, and Major General Constantin Zgavirdici, Deputy Director General, Tehnoimportexport, with Allen Greenwood, deputy chairman, British Aerospace and John Ferguson Smith, chairman of the Weybridge-Bristol Division of British Aerospace, Aircraft Group, was witnessed by the Romanian President and Lord Beswick, chairman of British Aerospace.

This large-scale, long-term programme, British Aerospace says, is the largest such industrial and technology transfer programme in the history of transport aircraft; it is the biggest ever co-operative venture in the long interlinked aeronautical histories of the two nations.

Rolls-Royce has also negotiated agreement which will ultimately be worth over £100 million to Rolls-Royce covering the joint manufacture of about 225 civil Spey aero engines over a period of 15 years to power the Romanian-built one-elevens.

Under the agreement Romania is taking a licence to manufacture sections of the Spey engine. About half the parts by value for the Speys covered by the agreement will eventually be produced in Romania; the engine also will be assembled and tested there. The engine involved is the Rolls-Royce Spey 512 which is rated at 12 550 lb take-off thrust.

Programme arrangements

The agreement names the British Aerospace Weybridge-Bristol Division as the British programme contractor, the Grupul Aeronautic Bucuresti (GAB) as the Romanian contractor, and Tehnoimportexport, the Romanian State Enterprise for Foreign Trade, to handle the business arrangements.

Beginning with three aircraft, which will be ordered from British Aerospace's own factories to initiate the transfer education process, a reducing scale of UK-supplied kits of parts over the first 22 aircraft in seven stages will complete the industrial transfer by 1985. From then on manufacture of the complete aircraft in Romania will continue at a rate of six aircraft a year through into the 1990s.

Around half of the total output will be for Romanian domestic use and the remainder for external markets. In due course, potential one-eleven customers will be able to buy identical aircraft from either the British or Romanian production lines, depending upon the commercial preference.

Mr John Ferguson Smith, deputy managing director – Civil and Marketing Director (Civil) of the British Aerospace Aircraft Group, and chairman of the Weybridge-Bristol division, who has led the British Aerospace team during the intensive two-year negotiating period, said that this Anglo-Romanian joint venture would provide an exceptionally valuable long-term underpinning and continuity to the worldwide-successful BAC one-eleven programme over the next 15 years and would also extend the potential market base into many more countries and areas of the world in which British Aerospace alone had not previously been able to penetrate but in which there was a continuing substantial requirement for this staple category of airliner.

This deal is the latest in a long line which can be traced back to the acquisition of a Bristol Boxkite by Romania in 1911; the modern association between British Aerospace and Romania, however, already spans ten years.

Beginning in 1968 with the purchase of six BAC one-eleven 400s for the state-owned airline Tarom, a further order for five of the larger BAC one-eleven 500 was placed in 1975.

As the principal reciprocal offset trading arrangement, the license manufacture of large numbers of Britten-Norman Islander light transports in Romania was arranged, of which almost 300 have now been completed.

Also associated with the one-eleven 500 order was a number of one-eleven manufacturing work packages in Romania, from which deliveries have for some time been in progress into BAE's Hurn (Bournemouth) assembly line.

In total, British Aerospace has thus already secured business with Romania worth £32 million and the new one-eleven license manufacturing programme will take total production of the aircraft beyond the 300 mark.

President and Madame Ceausescu of Romania (left) smile as Allen Greenwood (centre), deputy chairman of British aerospace, and Gheorghe Boldur of Groupul Aeronautic Bucharest, sign the contracts for the manufacture, under licence of 80 BAC 1-11 airliners.

ever standards of training are insisted upon, the man who shoulders the ultimate responsibility can fail at the moment his judgement is most needed. His failure can, of course, be due to one of many reasons – incompetence, inattention, incorrect information, blind faith or one of many others.'

But, Mr Davis said, without the proper training and the constant supervision of his ability to meet the everchanging needs of today's highly sophisticated and automated era, he cannot even begin. It was essential that minimum standards of training and certification – acceptable to all mariners throughout the world – should be introduced and implemented on an international basis as soon as possible. 'And, without question, the best means of achieving this goal must be through the auspices of Imco, and we should be very chary of heeding the voices of those who call for unilateral action, or who seek to by-pass Imco and thereby debase its vital international authority.'

Minimum standards

The UK would in fact be tabling important proposals to introduce minimum standards for training and qualification of masters, officers and key ratings of oil tankers, chemical tankers and liquid gas tankers. Mr Davis hoped that these proposals would commend themselves to the conference. 'I am pleased to note that the next step-mandatory minimum manning requirements – is included on the future programme of the sub-committee on standards of training and watchkeeping.'

Emphasising the need for strong but acceptable rules Mr Davis said that to attempt to attain too high a standard, without paying due regard to practical problems of implementation, could be positively counter-productive. The 'perfect' convention could well produce problems of an insoluble nature for some nations and this, in turn, could lead to the non-ratification of the convention.

Care should be taken to ensure that these requirements are not too onerous, too sophisticated or too complex – or, indeed, too expensive – for some member countries readily to accept or implement, Mr Davis concluded.

Commonwealth co-operation

On 13 June, John Archer, head of the Department of Trade's Marine Division, giving the closing address at the two-day Greenhithe conference of Commonwealth principal and chief examiners, said that the formal provisions of the Commonwealth Shipping Agreement were outmoded. He referred to the agreement reached in London last autumn to replace it with an informal understanding referred to as the Commonwealth merchant shipping forum.

The proposed forum, he said would be particularly appropriate where personnel matters such as standards of certificates of competency and mutual acceptability of qualifications were concerned. It would also provide co-operation in casualty inquiries, the welfare of crews and registration of ships.

The 'identity of views' which emerged among Commonwealth countries at the tanker safety and pollution prevention conference of Imco in February 'played a most important part in reaching a solution', said Mr Archer.

Duke of Kent visits CompAir

The Duke of Kent, vice-chairman of the British Overseas Trade Board, visiting the new headquarters of the CompAir group in Slough. CompAir is Britain's leading manufacturer and exporter of compressed air equipment. At the headquarters the Duke saw a display of CompAir products including a Maxam pneumatically-controlled brake unit developed for the Advanced Passenger Train recently unveiled by British Rail.

UK-Romania sign two-way trade agreements

Mr Dell and a party of 15 senior UK industrialists and businessmen called on President Ceausescu at Buckingham Palace on 14 June, further underlining Britain's interest in the expansion of trade and co-operation with Romania. This meeting was a natural followup to Mr Dell's visit to Romania with a group of senior businessmen earlier this year, when he again held talks with the President.

British Aerospace and Rolls Royce have signed agreements with the Romanian aeronautical industry on long term co-operation in the manufacture and supply of the BAC1-11 aircraft and aircraft engines (see box).

The signing took place during the state visit to the UK of President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania from 13-16 June.

President Ceausescu also held talks with the Prime Minister, Edmund Dell, Secretary of State for Trade, and Gerald Kaufman, Minister of State for Industry.

Other agreements have been signed covering two-way trade and co-operation in technology between Romanian economic organisations and Imperial Chemical Industries, Northern Engineering Industries, Shell International Petroleum Company, the National Coal Board and others. The two governments also signed memorandums of understanding on co-operation in the aerospace industry and on technological co-operation in matters concerned with exploration for and production of offshore oil and gas.

Chinese health delegation visit UK

A party of Chinese health officials led by Dr Ch'ien Hsin-Chung, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Public Health of the People's Republic of China, left the UK today (23 June) after a 10-day visit to Britain. The Chinese visited a number of European countries and the purpose of the visit to the UK was to enable the Chinese party to get an overall view of the organisation and working of the NHS and to see a wide range of medical equipment available in this country.

ECGD backs $15m line of credit to Morocco

The repayment and funding of a $15 million line of credit being made available by Samuel Montagu and Co Ltd, acting on its own behalf and for Lloyds Bank International and Lazard Brothers to Banque Marocaine du Commerce Exterieur of Morocco (BMCE) is being backed by the Export Credits Guarantee Department.

A statement of intent was signed 13 June by Michael Meacher, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Trade and Mr K. Taylor, Secretary of ECCD signed for ECGD. Philip Shelbourne, chairman of Samuel Montagu and Hadj Abdelmajid Bengelloun, President-Director-General of BMCE signed for Morocco and Mr Moussa Saadi, Minister of Energy and Mines was present.

Scots mission to boost Faroese market

Len Small, marketing director of Scottish Road Services greets Mr and Mrs Kjarjan Midjord, at the beginning of a trade mission of some 50 Scottish businessmen to the Faroes which started on 6 June. The object of the mission was to secure a larger slice of the £400 million Faroes imported goods market. Mr Smalls hopes to negotiate an all-year-round ferry service between Scrabster in Caithness and Torshavn instead of the present four-month service.

Slough to South Africa

Slough and District Chamber of Commerce and Industry is sponsoring its seventh outward trade mission to South Africa, from 3 to 23 February 1979, under the auspices of the British Overseas Trade Board.

The mission, which will visit all the main centres, is open to all those who wish to develop and expand trade with South Africa.

Further details can be obtained from the Slough Chamber, 2 Bath Road, Slough SL1 3SB, tel. Slough 33633.

Paper and board originating in Switzerland

A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 16 June, said that the nine existing duty-free quotas for paper products falling within chapter 48 of the tariff and originating in Switzerland were to be merged into a single quota from 1 July.

HM Customs and Excise have allocated quota serial no. 3007 to this single quota (formerly, this serial number covered the Swiss residual quota ie other products of chapter 48).

'T & I' index inquiries

Readers wanting to know when articles and items of information were published in *Trade and Industry* should consult the published indexes which are issued free to subscribers. For material published in recent months, inquiries of this kind can be made to the Department of Industry Library's indexing section, tel. 01-215 5842 or 01-215 5879.

Customs review of inland clearance procedures

Customs and Excise is conducting a review of inland clearance facilities and procedures in the UK.

The points which will be examined during the review have been set out in a paper prepared for discussion by the joint customs consultative committee on which trade associates with customs interest are reresented.

Any interested trade body not represented may obtain a copy of the discussion paper from HM Customs and Excise, GCD4 Room 20/N Kent House, Upper Ground, London, SE1 9PS, tel. 01-928 0533 ext. 433.

Exportation of diamonds

Certain changes in the export licensing arrangements for diamonds are made by the Export of Goods (Control) Order 1978, which comes into force on 3 July 1978.

In future diamonds may be exported without a licence to the Republic of Ireland and the Channel Islands and they may be exported without a licence to other countries within the Scheduled Territories (currently Gibraltar) provided that they are sent by registered letter post, insured parcel post or air-freight.

In all other circumstances an export licence issued by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise is required.

Accordingly the commissioners are issuing an open diamond export licence which permits the exportation of diamonds in certain circumstances and subject to specified procedures.

Copies can be obtained from Exchange Control Branch, GCB 4, Customs and Excise, Kent House, London SE1 9PS.

In all other circumstances an individual licence is required and applications should be made to the same address.

Open diamond export licence

Open Diamond Export Licence dated 1 June 1978 granted by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise.

The Commissioners of Customs and Excise, in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 3(1)[1] of the Export of Goods (Control) Order 1978 (a) hereby grant an Open Diamond Export Licence authorising the exportation from the United Kingdom of diamonds either:

1 by registered letter post to any destination, other than to any destination in Southern Rhodesia, in any territory which is for the time being prescribed under section 23 of the Exchange Control Act 1947 [2] or

2 air freight to any destination in any of the following territories:

Brazil	Philippines	USSR
Hong Kong	Poland	Venezuela
India	Roumania	Yugoslavia
Italy	Sierra Leone	Zaire
Japan	Singapore	
Mexico	Spain	

This Licence shall be subject to the condition that the goods are presented for exportation at such times and places and in such manner as the Commissioners may for the purposes of this Licence direct. Particulars of the said directions are available to intending exporters only from the Customs and Excise Exchange Control Branch, GCB4, Kent House, Upper Ground, London SE1 9PS.

This Licence shall come into operation on 3 July 1978.

[1] S.I. 1978/796. [2] 1947 c. 14.

Notices to importers

Issued by the Department of Trade, Import Licensing Branch, Charles House, 375 Kensington High Street, London W14 8QH. Telephone inquiries should be addressed to the number at the end of the notice.

1685: Imports from the state trading area: revised arrangements for 1978

NTI 1654 (*Trade and Industry*, 20 January), gave details of 1978 quotas for imports of restricted goods from the state trading area, and stated that since the lists were provisional, any subsequent changes would be set out in a further notice.

Changes have now been made to certain of the textile categories, the previous inner limits on ultra-sensitive items listed in NTI 1654 having been removed from the general categories and separate facilities established for them, on a volume basis and based on 1976 trade.

The revised lists have been reproduced in full in the annex to this notice. The licensing arrangements remain as set out in NTI 1654.

Liberalisation of certain goods

Under the terms of the treaty of accession to the EEC, quantitative restrictions have been removed from the following goods of state trading origin:

Tariff heading/Description
54.03 Flax or ramie yarn, not put up for retail sale
54.04 Flax or ramie yarn, put up for retail sale

In addition, Romanian categories F1-6, as set out in NTI 1654, have been adjusted to take account of the removal from restriction of certain flax and ramie goods now covered by the terms of the EEC-Romania textile agreement, and the quota level for the remaining items reduced accordingly. The liberalised goods are as follows:

Tariff heading/Description
ex 61.06 Shawls, scarves, mufflers, mantillas, veils and the like, wholly or mainly of flax or of ramie
ex 62.02 Bed linen, curtains and other [1] furnishing articles, of flax or of ramie

[1] This does not include table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, which are the subject of a quota established under the EEC-Romania textile agreement – see NTI's 1649 and 1674.

Imports of all these liberalised goods will now fall under the surveillance licensing arrangements, details of which are set out in notices to importers 1484 and 1502.

Inquiries: Import Licensing Branch, tel. 01-603 4644; China ext. 238; other ext. 280.

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Imports from Bulgaria

Quotas for the import into the UK during the 12 months commencing 1 January 1978, of goods from Bulgaria which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
1	ex 07.01	Fresh vegetables, being:	
		a Green beans during the period 1 June to 30 September	10 tonnes
		b Lettuce and endive during periods 1 January to 15 June and 15 November to 31 December	10 tonnes
		c Tomatoes during the period 15 May to 31 October	400 tonnes
2	ex 20.02	Canned and bottled potatoes	275 tonnes
3	36.06	Matches (excluding Bengal matches)	4 500 short standards
4	53.11	Woven fabrics of wool or fine animal hair	66.95
5		Apparel of knitted or crocheted wool or fine animal hair, the following:	
	ex 60.04	Under garments of knitted or crocheted wool	59.25
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel of knitted or crocheted wool or fine animal hair, *other than jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers, blouses and shirt-blouses*, but including babies' garments	
6		Fabrics and made-up textile articles of cotton, the following:	
	55.07 55.08	Woven fabrics of cotton	18
	ex 60.05 ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of cotton	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets (*other than electric blankets*) of woven cotton	
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven cotton, excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	
7		Woven apparel, the following:	
	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' woven outer garments of man-made fibres or flax, *other than trousers, breeches, shorts and suits (including co-ordinate suits), of man-made textile fibres* but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12	98.3
	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments of woven man-made fibres or of flax, *other than trousers, slacks, blouses, shirt-blouses, jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, of man-made fibres* but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12 and including babies' garments	
	ex 61.03	Under garments of woven cotton or flax *other than shirts of cotton*	
	ex 61.04	Under garments of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.06	Shawls and other articles falling within heading no. 61.06 of woven man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 61.07	Ties, bow-ties and cravats of woven flax	
8	55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton of which, other than 8 tonnes unbleached or bleached	10 tonnes
9	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' suits (including co-ordinate suits), of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	10 000 pieces
10	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' shirts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	10 000 pieces
11	ex 64.01 ex 64.02	Footwear wholly of rubber or with uppers mainly of rubber. Footwear with rubber soles and textile uppers	45
12	69.11 69.12 69.13	Domestic and ornamental china and earthenware	85
13	ex 85.15	Transistorised radio broadcast receivers and radiograms	50
14	ex 85.15	Transistorised television broadcast receivers with screens of 18 inches and over in size [1]	25

[1] The reference to screen size is to the diagonal measurement.

Imports from China

Quotas for the import into the UK during the 12 months beginning 1 January 1978 of goods from the People's Republic of China which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
1	36.06	Matches (excluding Bengal matches)	13 500 short standards
2		Gloves, the following:	
	ex 42.03	Leather gloves, including gloves of leather and furskin or of leather and artificial fur and including gloves of fabric and leather	166.9
	ex 60.02	Gloves, knitted or crocheted to shape, not elastic or rubberised	
	ex 61.10	Gloves of woven cotton or flax	
3	50.04 ex 50.07	Thrown silk yarns	10.3
4	ex 50.09	Woven fabrics of silk of a weight exceeding 585 g/10 m² in the gum, or exceeding 485 g/10 m² not in the gum	721
5	53.11	Woven fabrics of wool or fine animal hair	72.1
6	55.06	Cotton yarn, put up for retail sale	1 123 000 m²
	55.07 55.08	Woven fabrics of cotton	
	56.05	Yarn of man-made fibres not put up for retail sale	
	51.04	Woven fabrics of man-made fibres	
	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of regenerated textile fibres (discontinuous or waste)	
	ex 58.04	Woven pile and chenille fabrics of cotton or of man-made fibres	
	58.05	Woven narrow fabrics of cotton or of man-made fibres	
	ex 59.13	Woven elastic fabrics of man-made fibres exceeding 30 cm in width, or of cotton	
7	ex 60.04	Under garments of knitted or crocheted wool	236.7
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel of knitted or crocheted wool or fine animal hair, *other than jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets, jumpers, blouses and shirt-blouses*, but including babies' garments	
8		Textile manufactures, being:	
		a Household textiles of which not more than 343 400 m², for cotton towels being:	
	ex 60.05	Bed linen, table linen, curtains and other furnishing articles wholly or mainly of knitted or crocheted cotton or man-made fibres	
		Other articles for household use wholly or mainly of knitted or crocheted man-made fibres	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets *(other than electric blankets)*, wholly or mainly of woven cotton or man-made fibres	
	ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen, curtains and other furnishing articles wholly or mainly of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax	
		b Apparel, the following	
	ex 60.04	Under garments of knitted or crocheted cotton or man-man fibres, *other than T-shirts and light weight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, other than shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres and other than undervests and the like, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres*	425.7
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel, of knitted or crocheted cotton or of man-made fibres, *other than jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets, jumpers, blouses and shirt-blouses*, but including babies' garments	
	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' outer garments of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax, *other than trousers, breeches, slacks, shorts and suits (including co-ordinate suits), of cotton or of man-made textile fibres*	
	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments, of woven cotton, of man-made fibres or of flax, *other than trousers, slacks, blouses, shirt-blouses, jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres*, but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12 and including babies' garments	
	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' under garments of flax	
	ex 61.04	Women's, girls' and infants' under garments of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.05	Handkerchiefs (of which not more than 149 783 m² for cotton handkerchiefs) of woven cotton or man-made fibres	
	ex 61.06	Shawls, scarves, mufflers and the like of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 61.07	Ties, bow-ties and cravats of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.09	Corsetry and the like of woven cotton	

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
9	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' under garments, *other than those of flax and other than shirts of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair*	200 000 pieces
10	55.05	Cotton yarn, not put up for retail sale	17 tonnes
11	55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton	400 tonnes[1]
		of which, other than unbleached or bleached	68 tonnes
12	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of synthetic textile fibres (discontinuous or waste)	3 tonnes
		of which, other than unbleached or bleached	2 tonnes
13	ex 60.04	Under garments, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised, the following: T-shirts and lightweight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres; shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres; undervests and the like, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres	67 000 pieces
14	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles, knitted or crocheted, not elastic nor rubberised, the following: jerseys, pullovers, slipovers, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than babies' garments*	44 000 pieces
15	ex 61.01 ex 61.02	Outer garments, the following: men's and boys' woven trousers, breeches and shorts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*; women's, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* trousers and slacks, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	22 000 pieces
16	ex 60.05 ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* knitted, crocheted or woven blouses and shirt-blouses, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	32 000 pieces
17	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' shirts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	570 000 pieces
18	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* woven jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats, and other coats, cloaks and capes, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than those of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	8 000 pieces
19	64.01 64.02	Footwear	135
20	65.05 65.06	Headgear, not being wholly or partly of wool or fur felt	759.15
21	69.11 69.12 69.13	Domestic and ornamental china and earthenware (of which not more than £193,600 for ornamental ware and not more than £33,000 for pottery jars containing stem ginger or duck eggs)	483

[1] A separate facility will be created for cloth used in the manufacture in the UK of fusible interlinings – see NTI 1669, *Trade and Industry*, 17 March 1978.

Imports from Czechoslovakia

Quotas for the import into the UK during the 12 months beginning 1 January 1978 of goods from Czechoslovakia which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
1	36.06	Matches (excluding Bengal matches)	686 600 short standards
2		Gloves, of which not more than £51,500 for gloves wholly of leather, the following:	
	ex 42.03	Leather gloves including gloves of leather and furskin or of leather and artificial fur and including gloves of fabric and leather	82.4
	ex 60.02	Gloves knitted or crocheted to shape, not elastic nor rubberised	
	ex 61.10	Gloves of woven cotton or flax	
3	51,04 ex 60.01	Woven and knitted fabrics of man-made fibres	1 172 590 m²
	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of regenerated textile fibres (discontinuous or waste)	
4	53.11	Woven fabric of wool or fine animal hair	76 600 m²
5	ex 54.05	Woven fabric of flax, *other than tea towelling* (of which not more than 40 000 m² for sail cloth or canvas of flax of a weight not less than 410 g/m²)	375 000 m²
6	ex 54.05 ex 62.02	Tea towelling and tea towels of flax	242 500 m²
7	55.07 55.08 ex 58.04	Woven fabrics of cotton	405 000 m²
8	ex 58.04	Woven pile and chenille fabrics excluding cotton corduroy	
9	58.05 ex 59.13	Woven narrow fabrics Woven elastic fabrics of cotton, man-made fibres exceeding 30 cm in width, wool, fine animal hair or flax	236.9
10		Stockings and socks, the following:	
	ex 60.03	Women's stockings of synthetic textile fibres	92.7
	ex 61.10	Stockings and socks of woven cotton	
11		Apparel, the following:	
	ex 60.04	under garments of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres or wool, *other than T-shirts and lightweight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, other than shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres and other than undervests and the like of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres*	300
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel, of knitted or crocheted cotton man-made fibres, wool or fine animal hair, *other than blouses, shirt-blouses, jerseys, pullovers, slipovers, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets, and jumpers*, but including babies' garments	
12		Household textiles (of which not more than 279 540 m² for cotton goods and 390 000 m² for goods of flax) (excluding tea towels of flax), being:	
	ex 60.05	Bed linen, table linen, curtains and other furnishing articles wholly or mainly of knitted or crocheted cotton or man-made fibres Other articles for household use wholly or mainly of knitted or crocheted man-made fibres, wool or fine animal hair	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets, wholly or mainly of woven cotton, man-made fibres, wool or fine animal hair	1 846 321 m²
	ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen, curtains and other furnishing articles wholly or mainly of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven flax *other than those made from narrow fabrics*	
13		Woven apparel, the following:	
	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' outer garments of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax, *other than trousers, breeches, shorts and suits (including co-ordinate suits), of cotton or of man-made fibres*	
	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax, *other than blouses, shirt-blouses, trousers, slacks, jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, of cotton or of man-made fibres*, but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12 and including babies' garments	115
	ex 61.03	Under garments of woven cotton or flax, *other than shirts of cotton*	
	ex 61.04	Under garments of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.05	Handkerchiefs (excluding embroidered handkerchiefs) of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 61.06	Shawls, scarves, mufflers and the like of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 61.07	Ties, bow-ties and cravats of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61,09	Corsetry and the like of woven cotton	
14	55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton	278 tonnes
		of which, other than unbleached or bleached	190 tonnes
15	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of synthetic textile fibres (discontinuous or waste)	9 tonnes
		of which, other than unbleached or bleached	8 tonnes

Economic Trends

A monthly journal, compiled by the Central Statistical Office, for those who want to follow the main trends of the economic situation in the United Kingdom. It brings together the main statistical series of employment, output, consumption, trade and finance, and each issue contains special feature articles on some aspect of the statistics.

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Further information

Inquiries concerning import licensing should be directed to:

Import Licensing Branch
Department of Trade
Charles House
375 Kensington High Street
London W14 8QH

Tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 238 (China)
280 (Other)

NTI 1685 continued

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
16	ex 60.05	Knitted or crocheted jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than babies' garments*	37 000 pieces
17	ex 61.01 ex 61.02	Men's and boys' woven trousers, breeches and shorts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of fabrics of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12; women's girls' and infants' (other than babies)* trousers and slacks, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	1 000 pieces
18	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' shirts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	48 000 pieces
19	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* woven jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	72 000 pieces
20	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' woven suits (including co-ordinate suits), of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	51 000 pieces
21	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' jackets, blazers and the like, of wool	60 000 pieces
22	ex 62.04	Tarpaulins, sails, awnings, sunblinds, tents and camping goods, of woven cotton	55.8
23	ex 64.01 ex 64.02	Footwear wholly of rubber or with uppers mainly of rubber. Footwear with rubber soles and textile uppers	120
24	65.01 65.03 65.05 65.06	Headgear (of which not more than £73 645 for hats and hoods of wool or fur felt)	133.9
25	69.11 69.12 69.13	Domestic and ornamental china and earthenware	372.5
26	ex 85.15	Transistorised radio and television broadcast receivers and radiograms (of which not more than £130 000 for television receivers)	195
27	ex 85.21	Electronic valves and semi-conductors	255

Imports from German Democratic Republic

Quotas for the import into the UK during the 12 months beginning 1 January 1978 of goods from the German Democratic Republic which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
1	36.06	Matches (excluding Bengal matches)	10 500 short standards
2		Gloves, the following:	
	ex 42.03	Leather gloves, including gloves of leather and furskin or of leather and artificial fur and including gloves of fabric and leather	15.45
	ex 60.02	Gloves knitted to shape or crocheted to shape, not elastic nor rubberised	
	ex 61.10	Gloves of woven cotton or flax	
3		Fabrics of man-made fibres, the following:	186 450 m²
	51.04 ex 60.01	Knitted, crocheted or woven fabrics, of man-made fibres	
	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of regenerated textile fibres (discontinuous or waste)	
4	ex 53.11	Woven fabrics of wool or fine animal hair or fabrics in which wool or fine animal hair represents 50 % or more by weight	414.6
5		Woven fabrics and made-up textile articles of flax, the following:	5.15
	ex 54.05	Woven fabrics of flax, *other than tea towelling*	
	ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen (other than tea towels) curtains and other furnishing articles of woven flax	
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven flax excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	
6	ex 60.03	Women's stockings of synthetic textile fibres	7.3
	ex 61.10	Stockings and socks of woven cotton textile fibres	
7		Apparel (of which not more than £72 100 for stocking tights)	440.96
	ex 60.04	Under garments of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres or wool, *other than T-shirts and light weight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, other than shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres and other than undervests and the like, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres*	
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres, wool or fine animal hair, *other than blouses and shirt-blouses, jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair,* but including babies' garments	
	ex 61.01 ex 61.02	Outer garments of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax, *other than the following goods of cotton or of man-made fibres,* but including any garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12 and including babies' garments; trousers, breeches, slacks and shorts; blouses and shirt-blouses; men's and boys' suits (including co-ordinate suits); women's, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes	
	ex 61.03	Under garments of woven cotton or flax, *other than shirts of cotton*	
	ex 61.04	Under garments of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.06	Shawls and other articles falling within heading 61.06 of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 61.07	Ties, bow-ties and cravats of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.09	Corsets and other articles falling within heading 61.09 of woven cotton	
8	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of synthetic textile fibres (discontinuous or waste) of which, other than unbleached or bleached	33 tonnes 28 tonnes
9	ex 60.04	T-shirts and lightweight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres; shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres; undervests and the like, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres	51 000 pieces
10	ex 60.05	Knitted or crocheted jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than babies' garments*	90 000 pieces
11	ex 61.01 ex 61.02	Men's and boys' woven trousers, breeches and shorts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12;* womens, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* trousers and slacks, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	24 000 pieces
12	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' shirts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	2 000 pieces
13	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' woven suits (including co-ordinate suits), of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, other than those of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12	33 00 pieces
14	ex 60.03	Knitted or crocheted stockings, understockings, socks, ankle-socks sockettes and the like, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than women's stockings of synthetic textile fibres*	61,000 prs
15		Travelling rugs and blankets, *other than electric blankets* (of which not more than £16 182 for those made of cotton or of man-made fibres including a maximum of £11 062 for those made of cotton), the following:	61.8
	ex 60.05	Of knitted or crocheted cotton or man-made fibres	
	ex 62.01	Of woven cotton, man-fibres, wool or fine animal hair	
16	ex 62.02	Table mats of man-made fibres	10.3
17	ex 62.04	Woven cotton tents	8.35

Do you use statistics?

The Government Statistical Service (GSS) prepares a wide range of reliable and detailed figures on the United Kingdom. It is usually worth checking to see if what you want is available from them. You can see many government statistical publications at your local public library, buy them from HMSO, or refer to the comprehensive collection held at the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4N 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757 ext. 368).

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
18	69.11 69.12 69.13	Domestic and ornamental china and earthenware (of which not more than £172 000 for ornamental ware)	425
19	ex 69.11 ex 69.13	Meissen porcelain	100
20	ex 85.15	Transistorised radio broadcast receivers and transistorised radiograms	120
21	ex 85.15	Transistorised television broadcast receivers with screens of 18 in and over in size [1]	50
22	ex 85.21	Electronic valves and semi-conductors	140

[1] The reference to screen size is to the diagonal measurement.

Imports from Hungary

Quotas for the import into the UK during the 12 months commencing 1 January 1978 of goods from Hungary which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
1	ex 07.01	fresh vegetables, being:	
		a Tomatoes during the period 15 May to 31 October	50 tonnes
		b Green beans during the period 1 June to 30 September	10 tonnes
		c Lettuce and endive during the periods 1 January to 15 June and 15 November to 31 December	10 tonnes
2	36.06	Matches (excluding Bengal matches)	67 000 short standards
3		Gloves (of which not more than 185 000 pairs for leather gloves or alternatively 335 000 pairs for fabric or fabric and leather gloves), the following:	
	ex 42.03 ex 60.02 ex 61.10	Leather gloves, including gloves of leather and furskin or of leather and artificial fur Gloves knitted to shape or crocheted to shape, not elastic nor rubberised Gloves of woven cotton or flax	360 000 pr
4		Fabrics of man-made textile fibres, the following:	
	51.04 ex 56.07 ex 60.01	Woven fabrics of man-made textile fibres Woven fabrics of re-generated textile fibres (discontinuous or waste) Knitted or crocheted fabrics of man-made textile fibres	620 860 m²
5		Fabrics and made-up textile articles of wool or fine animal hair, the following:	
	53.11 ex 62.01 ex 62.05	Woven fabrics of wool or fine animal hair Travelling rugs and blankets *(other than electric blankets)* of woven wool or fine animal hair Other made-up textile articles of woven wool or fine animal hair, excluding those made-up from narrow fabrics	46.35
6		Woven fabrics and made-up textile articles of flax, the following:	
	ex 54.05 ex 62.02	Tea towelling and tea towels of flax	184 000 m²
7	ex 54.05 ex 62.02 ex 62.05	Other woven fabrics of flax Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen *(other than tea towels)*, curtains and other furnishing articles of woven flax Other made-up textile articles of woven flax excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	338 000 m²
8	55.07 55.08 ex 58.04	Woven fabrics of cotton (of which not more than 584 350 m² for finished fabrics	877 145m²
9	ex 58.05 ex 59.13	Narrow fabrics of woven cotton or wool or of non-elastic or non-rubberised knitted or woven man-made textile fibres	97.85
10	ex 58.10	Embroidery in the piece in strips or in motifs on woven cotton textile fibres	36.8
11		Stockings and socks, the following:	
	ex 60.03 ex 61.10	Women's stockings of synthetic textile fibres Stockings and socks of woven cotton textile fibres	87.55
12		Apparel, the following (of which not more than £100,000 including fabrics normally falling within category 4, should be allowed for the value added element of products imported under a recorded co-operation agreement):	
	ex 60.04	a Under garments of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-man fibres or wool, *other than T-shirts and light weight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, other than shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres and other than undervests and the like of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres*	546
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel of knitted or crocheted cotton, of man-man fibres, of wool or fine animal hair, *other than blouses, shirt-blouses, jerseys, pullovers, slip-twin-sets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers*, but including babies' garments	
	ex 61.01	b Men's and boys' outer garments of woven man-made fibres or of flax, *other than trousers, breeches, shorts and suits (including co-ordinate suits), of man-made textile fibres*	
	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants outer garments of woven man-made fibres or flax, *other than blouses, shirt-blouses, trousers, slacks, jackets, blazers, coats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, of man-made fibres*, but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12 and including babies' garments.	1 145.2
	ex 61.03 ex 61.04 ex 61.06	Under garments of woven flax Shawls and other articles falling within heading no. 61.06 of woven man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 61.07	Ties, bow-ties and cravats, of woven flax	
	ex 61.01	c Men's and boys' outer garments of woven cotton, *other than trousers, breeches, shorts and suits (including co-ordinate suits)*	
	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments of woven cotton, *other than blouses, shirt-blouses, trousers, slacks, jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes*, but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12 and including babies' garments	2 643 810 m²
	ex 61.03	Under garments of woven cotton *other than shirts*	
	ex 61.04	Under garments of woven cotton	
	ex 61.05	Handkerchiefs of woven cotton	
	ex 61.06	Shawls and other articles falling within heading no 61.06 of woven cotton	
	ex 61.07	Ties, bow-ties and cravats of woven cotton	
	ex 61.09	Corsets and other articles falling within heading no. 61.09 of woven cotton	
13		Woven fabrics of true hemp and made-up textile articles of cotton or of man-made fibres or of true hemp, hat forms, hat bodies, and hoods of felt (of which not more than £55,000 for goods of true hemp), the following:	
	ex 60.05 ex 62.02	a Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of cotton	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets *(other than electric blankets)* of woven cotton	515 504 m²
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven cotton, excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	
	ex 57.11	b Woven fabrics of true hemp	
	ex 60.05	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of knitted man-made fibres	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets *(other than electric blankets)* of woven man-made fibres	
	ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of woven man-made fibres or true hemp	309
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven man-made fibres or true hemp, excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	
	ex 65.01	Hat forms, hat bodies and hoods of felt not exceeding £10,300	
14	ex 65.05	Knitted acrylic caps	3.1
15	ex 62.04	Woven cotton tents	149 480 m²
16	ex 64.01 ex 64.02	Footwear wholly of rubber or with uppers mainly of rubber. Footwear with rubber soles and textile uppers	95
17	69.11 69.12 69.13	Domestic and ornamental china and earthenware (of which not more than £32 200 for ornamental ware)	183
18	69.11 69.12 69.13	Herend	100
19	ex 85.15	Transistorised radio and television broadcast receivers and radiograms	200
20	ex 85.21	Electronic valves and semi-conductors	515
21	55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton of which, other than unbleached or bleached	396 tonnes 62 tonnes
22	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of synthetic textile fibres (discontinuous or waste) of which, other than unbleached or bleached	152 tonnes 25 tonnes
23	ex 60.04	Under garments, knitted or crocheted, the following: T-shirts and light weight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres; shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres; undervests and the like, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres	165 000 pieces

Further information

Inquiries concerning import licensing should be directed to:

Import Licensing Branch
Department of Trade
Charles House
375 Kensington High Street
London W14 8QH
Tel. 01-603 4644 ext. 238 (China)
280 (Other)

NTI 1685 continued

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
24	ex 60.05	Outer garments, knitted or crocheted, the following: jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	120 000 pieces
25	ex 61.01 ex 61.02	Outer garments, the following: men's and boys' woven trousers, breeches and shorts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*; women's, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* trousers and slacks, of cotton, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	5 000 pieces
26	ex 60.05 ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* woven, knitted or crocheted blouses and shirt-blouses, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	13 000 pieces
27	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' shirts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	93 000 pieces
28	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' *(other than babies')* woven jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	29 000 pieces
29	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' woven suits (including co-ordinate suits), of cotton, of man-made textile fibres of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than those of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	51 000 pieces

Imports from Poland

Quotas for the import into the UK during the 12 months beginning 1 January 1978 of goods from Poland which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
1	ex 07.01	Fresh vegetables being: a Tomatoes during the period 15 May to 31 October	50 tonnes
		b Green beans during the period 1 June to 30 September	10 tonnes
		c Lettuce and endive during the periods 1 January to 15 June and 15 November to 31 December	10 tonnes
2	ex 07.01	Potatoes: i New Potatoes: ii Other	PM[1] PM[1]
3	ex 07.02	Frozen chipped potatoes	300 tonnes
4	ex 07.04	Dried cubed potatoes	830 tonnes
5	ex 20.02	Canned potatoes	300 tonnes
6	ex 36.06	Matches (excluding Bengal matches)	83 500 short standards
7	ex 42.03	Leather gloves, including gloves of leather and fur-skin or of leather and artificial fur but excluding gloves of fabric and leather	20.6
8		Fabrics and made-up textile articles of man-made fibres, the following:	
	51.04	a Woven fabrics of man-made fibres	
	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of regenerated textile fibres (discontinuous or waste)	913 280 m²
	ex 60.01	b Knitted or crocheted fabrics of man-made fibres	
	ex60.05 ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of man-made fibres	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets *(other than electric blankets)*, of woven man-made fibres	1 118 000 m²
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven man-made fibres, excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	
9		Fabrics and made-up textile articles of wool or fine animal hair, the following:	
	53.11	Woven fabrics of wool or fine animal hair	
	ex 62.01	Travelling rugs and blankets (other than electric blankets) of woven wool or fine animal hair	231.75[2]
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven wool or fine animal hair, excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	
10		Woven fabrics and made-up textile articles of flax, the following:	
	ex 54.05 ex 62.02	Tea towelling and tea towels of flax	86 000 m²
	ex 54.05 ex 62.02	Other woven fabrics of flax Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen *(other than tea towels)*, curtains and other furnishing articles of woven flax	53.6
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven flax, excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	
11		Fabrics and made-up textile articles of cotton, the following:	
	ex 62.02	a Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of woven cotton	424 480 m²
	ex 60.05	b Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen and kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles of knitted cotton	36 110 m²
12	55.07 55.08 ex 62.01	Woven fabrics of cotton Travelling rugs and blankets *(other than electric blankets)* of woven cotton	140 480 m²
	ex 62.05	Other made-up textile articles of woven cotton excluding those made up from narrow fabrics	
13	ex 58.04	Plush fabrics of cotton, man-made fibres, wool or fine animal hair (of which not more than 73 700 m² for fabrics made wholly or mainly of cotton)	559 000 m²
14	ex 58.05 ex 59.13	Narrow fabrics of woven cotton or wool of non-elastic or non-rubberised knitted or woven man-made fibres	103
15		Handicraft textile table covers:	
	ex 58.10 ex 60.05 ex 62.02	Of woven cotton Of cotton, man-made fibres or flax	20.6
16	ex 60.03 ex 61.10	Women's stockings of synthetic textile fibres Stockings and socks of woven cotton	103
17		Apparel, the following:	
	ex 60.04	Under garments of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres or wool, *other than T-shirts and light weight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, other than shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres and other than undervests and the like, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres*, but including babies' garments	
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres or wool or fine animal hair, *other than blouses, shirt-blouses, jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers*, but including babies' garments.	
	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' outer garments of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax, *other than trousers, breeches, shorts and suits (including co-ordinate suits)*, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres	1 716.2
	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax, *other than blouses, shirt-blouses, trousers, slacks, jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres*, but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12 and including babies' garments	
	ex 61.03	Under garments of woven cotton or flax, *other than shirts of cotton*	
	ex 61.04	Under garments of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.06	Shawls and other articles falling within heading no. 61.06 of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax	
	ex 61.07	Ties, bow-ties and cravats of woven cotton or flax	
	ex 61.09	Corsets and other articles falling within heading no. 61.09 of woven cotton	
18	55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton	93 tonnes
		of which, other than unbleached or bleached	14 tonnes
19	ex 56.07	Woven fabrics of synthetic textile fibres (discontinuous or waste	274 tonnes
		of which, other than unbleached or bleached	47 tonnes
20	ex 60.04	Under garments, knitted or crocheted, the following: T-shirts and light weight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres; shirts, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres; undervests and the like, of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres	835 000 pieces
21	ex 60.05	Outer garments, knitted or crocheted, the following: jerseys, pullovers, slipovers, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than babies' garments*	429 000 pieces
22	ex 61.01 ex 61.02	Outer garments, the following: Men's and boys' breeches, shorts and trousers (including slacks), of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*; women's, girls' and infants' (*other than babies'*) trousers and slacks, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	18 000 pieces

NTI 1685 continued

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
23	ex 61.03	Men's and boys' shirts, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	267 000 pieces
24	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' (*other than babies'*) woven jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	61 000 pieces
25	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' suits (including co-ordinate suits), of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair, *other than garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12*	97 000 pieces
26	ex 60.05 ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' (*other than babies'*) knitted, crocheted or woven blouses and shirt-blouses, of cotton, of man-made textile fibres, of wool or of fine animal hair	43 000 pieces
27	ex 62.04	Woven cotton tents	10
28	ex 64.01 ex 64.02	Footwear wholly of rubber or with uppers mainly of rubber. Footwear with rubber soles and textile uppers	110
29	ex 65.01	Hat forms, hat bodies and hoods of felt	12.9
30	69.11 69.12 69.13	Domestic and ornamental china and earthenware (of which not more than £21,500 for ornamental ware)	448.5
31	ex 85.15	Transistorised radio and television broadcast receivers and radiograms (of which not more than £285,000 for radio receivers, television receivers with screens of under 18 in in size and radiograms)[3]	380
32	ex 85.21	Electronic valves and semi-conductors	335

[1] PM Pro Memoria. [2] Of which not more than £154,500 may be used for either: a fabrics of wool or fine animal hair (53.11) or alternatively: b made up textile articles of wool or fine animal hair (ex 62.01, ex 62.05). [3] The reference to screen size is to the diagonal measurement.

Imports from Romania

Quotas for the import into the UK of goods from Romania during the 12 months beginning 1 January 1978 which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

Note: See also notices to importers 1649 and 1674 published in *Trade and Industry* on 6 January 1978 and 14 April 1978.

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
R.1	ex 07.01	Fresh tomatoes during the period 15 May to 31 October	1 980 tonnes
R.2	ex 07.02	Potatoes preserved by freezing	400 tonnes
R.3	ex 07.04	Dried potatoes	30
R.4	ex 20.02	Canned or bottled potatoes	340
R.5	36.06	Matches (excluding Bengal matches)	8 500 short standards
R.6	ex 42.03	Gloves, the following: Leather gloves, including gloves of leather and furskin or of leather and artificial fur, but excluding gloves of fabric and leather	56.65
R.7	69.11 69.12 69.13	Domestic and ornamental china, porcelain and earthware	331
R.8	ex 85.15	Transistorised radio and television broadcast receivers and radiograms	250
R.9	ex 85.15	Transistorised 12 in monochrome television broadcast receivers[1]	720 [2]
R.10	ex 85.21	Electronic valves and semi-conductors	110
F.1	ex 61.01 ex 61.02	Outer garments, wholly or mainly of flax, of ramie or of hemp	28.7
F.2	ex 61.03 ex 61.04	Undergarments wholly or mainly of flax, of ramie or of hemp	
F.3	ex 61.05	Handkerchiefs wholly or mainly of flax, of ramie or of hemp	
F.4	ex 61.06	Shawls, scarves, mufflers, mantillas, veils and the like, wholly or mainly of hemp	
F.5	ex 61.07	Ties, bow ties and cravats, wholly or mainly of flax, of ramie or of hemp	
F.6	ex 62.02	Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen, kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles, wholly or mainly of hemp	

[1] The reference to screen size is to the diagonal measurement. [2] Special conditions apply to this quota. Intending importers should consult Import Licensing Branch before concluding contracts.

Imports from Vietnam

Quotas for the import into the UK during the 12 months beginning 1 January 1978 of goods from Vietnam which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

Category no/tariff heading/ description of goods	Quota (£000)
1/51.04 Woven fabrics of man-made fibres (continuous), including woven fabrics of monofil or strip of heading no. 51.01 or 51.02 **56.05** Yarn of man-made fibres, (discontinuous or waste), not put up for retail sale **ex 62.02** Bed linen, table linen, toilet linen, kitchen linen, curtains and other furnishing articles wholly or mainly of woven cotton, of man-made fibres, of flax, of ramie or of hemp	15
2/69.11, 69.12 Tableware and other articles of a kind commonly used for domestic or toilet purposes, of porcelain or china (including biscuit porcelain and parian) or of other kinds of pottery	21

Imports from the USSR

Quotas for the import into the UK during the 12 months beginning 1 January 1978 of goods from the USSR which remain subject to quantitative restriction are set out below:

No.	CCT heading no.	Description	Value £1,000 cif or quantity
1	36.06	Matches (other than Bengal matches)	448 500 short standards
2	55.07 55.08	Woven fabrics of cotton	289 990 m² [1]
3	ex 60.04	Apparel, the following: Under garments of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres or wool, *other than T-shirts and light weight fine knit roll, polo or turtle-necked jumpers and pullovers, of cotton or of man-made textile fibres, other than shirts of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres and other than undervests and the like of cotton or of synthetic textile fibres*	72.1
	ex 60.05	Outer garments and other articles of apparel, of knitted or crocheted cotton, man-made fibres, wool or fine animal hair, *other than jerseys, pullovers, slip-overs, twinsets, cardigans, bed-jackets and jumpers, blouses and shirt-blouses*	
	ex 61.01	Men's and boys' outer garments of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax, *other than trousers, breeches, shorts and suits of cotton or of man-made fibres*, but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12	
	ex 61.02	Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments of woven cotton, man-made fibres or flax, *other than trousers, slacks, jackets, blazers, overcoats, raincoats and other coats, cloaks and capes, blouses and shirt-blouses, of cotton or of man-made fibres*, but including such garments of textile fabric of heading no. 59.08, 59.11 or 59.12	
	ex 61.03 ex 61.04	Under garments of woven cotton or flax *other than shirts of cotton falling within tariff heading 61.03*	
4	ex 60.05	Bed linen of knitted or crocheted cotton or man-made fibres	30.9
	ex 62.02	Bed linen of woven cotton man-made fibres or flax	
5	55.09	Other woven fabrics of cotton	169 tonnes [1]
		of which, other than unbleached or bleached	82 tonnes [1]
6	69.11 69.12 69.13	Domestic and ornamental china and earthenware	95.5
7	ex 85.15	Transistorised radio broadcast receivers	470 [2]
8	ex 85.15	Transistorised radiograms	280 [3]
9	ex 85.15	Transistorised monochrome television broadcast receivers of 6 in and 9 in [4]	20 100 units
10	ex 85.21	Electronic valves and semi-conductors	265

[1] The Department of Trade is prepared to issue licences outside the above arrangements for the import into the United Kingdom of grey cotton cloth for processing and re-export. [2] Quota no. 7 includes provision for import into the United Kingdom of unit transistorised radio tuners whether or not combined with amplifiers. Other parts of unit audio equipment are not subject to quantity limitations when imported into the United Kingdom. [3] Radiograms and parts thereof which are not equipped with transistors (including free-standing speakers) are not subject to quantity limitation when imported into the United Kingdom. [4] The reference to screen size is to the diagonal measurement.

1686: Imports of bananas from the Dollar Area

The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is currently reviewing the licensing procedures for imports of bananas originating in the dollar area with a view to determining what changes, if any, need to be introduced at the beginning of the next quota year on 1 October 1978.

United Kingdom importers who wish to put forward views or proposals in connection with the system are invited to do so. They should send them to Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, Tropical Foods Division, 29 Bressenden Place, London SW1E 5DD by 14 July 1978. This is not an invitation to any licence holder to seek an increase in his share of the quota.

The dollar area as defined in the open general import licence means Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Liberia, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Philippines, United States of America and Venezuela.

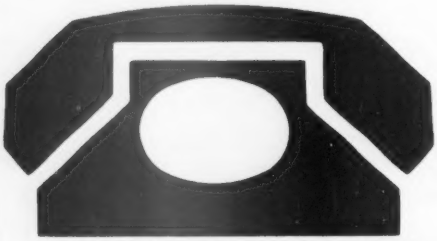
Inquiries: Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, tel. 01-828 4366 ext. 1163/1355.

OTAR: help for exporters

Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757) can give you directly, or through your regional office, up-to-date information on the tariffs and customs regulations of overseas countries, import licensing regulations and restrictions including import quotas; certificate of origin; consular invoices and fees; labelling and marking requirements; foodstuffs, drugs and pharmaceuticals; agency legislation, setting up of a subsidiary company and the imports of samples. It also provides information, in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on health regulations for livestocks meat, animal products and plants and seeds. In short, OTAR can help on almost all legislation which affects the entry of British goods into overseas countries.

Inquiries which concern the countries of more than one sub-section (excluding inquiries involving only EEC countries) should be made to OTAR's co-ordination sub-section on 01-248 5757 extension 452 or 454.

For information on specific countries, phone the number and extension given below



01-248 5757

extension

Sub-section A

1 Co-ordination of EEC regulations, requirements and common customs tariff (CCT), Denmark, France incl. overseas territories, Greece, Turkey, Cyprus

408 Denmark (incl. Faroe Islands and Greenland). EEC legislation on tariff and non-tariff barriers relative to community trade

423 France and French overseas departments, French overseas territories, Comoros

439 Greece (incl. Dodecanese Islands), Turkey, Cyprus

2 Benelux, Dutch overseas territories, Irish Republic, Italy, Federal Republic of Germany

288 Belgium, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Netherlands Antilles, Aruba, Bonaire, Curacao, St Eustatius, St Martin (Dutch), Saba, Suriname

466 Italy, Irish Republic

467 Federal Republic of Germany

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Efta countries, Spain, Gibraltar, Malta, Israel, Macao

458 Israel, Norway, Gibraltar, Malta

459 Austria, Sweden, Switzerland

460 Portugal, Finland, Iceland, Macao

461 Spain, Canary Islands, Andorra

Sub-section C

1 North America, Bahamas, Bermuda, West Indies

455 Canada

456 USA (incl. Alaska, Caroline Islands, Guam, Hawaii, Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands, Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Samoa (US), Virgin Islands (US), Wake Island)

7312 Anguilla, Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St Kitts/Nevis, St Lucia, St Vincent, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands

2 South and Central America

474 Argentina, British Antarctic Territories and Antarctica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Falkland Islands, Haiti, Paraguay, Uruguay, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela

476 Brazil, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama

Sub-section D

Africa

462 Algeria, Ceuta and Melilla, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Western Sahara

471 Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Jibuti (Djibouti), Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Rwanda, St Helena and Tristan da Cunha and Ascension Islands, Sao Tome/Principe, Seychelles, Somalia, South Africa (with Botswana, Lesotho, SW Africa and Swaziland), Zambia, British Indian Ocean Territory

472 Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Empire, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Upper Volta, Zaire

473 The Gambia, Liberia, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Sierra Leone

Sub-section E

Australasia and South East Asia, Eastern Bloc, China, Mongolia, Yugoslavia

401 New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, W. Samoa, Chatham Islands, Cook Islands, Niue Islands, Tokelau Islands, Philippines

468 Australia, Solomon Islands, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Island (Indian Ocean), Nauru, New Hebrides, Papua New Guinea, Albania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Poland, Romania, USSR, China, Mongolia, Yugoslavia

469 Brunei, Fiji, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Tonga, Gilbert Islands (incl. Ocean Island, Phoenix and Northern Line Islands), Tuvalu, Norfolk Island, Pitcairn Island

Sub-section F

Middle East (Part) and Asia (Part)

420 Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Japan, Korea Democratic Peoples Republic, Korea Republic of, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Yemen Arab Republic, Yemen Peoples Democratic Republic

475 Iraq, Jordan, Kampuchea (formerly Cambodia), Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Vietnam Socialist Republic of, Bahrain, Iran, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates

Doing business with the United States: factors for success

Doing business with, and not merely exporting to, the United States was the theme of Hugh Parker's address to the AGM of the North American section of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 23 May. The poor performance of some UK firms in the United States market was worth investigation. In his talk Mr Parker, president of the American Chamber of Commerce (United Kingdom) and a director of McKinsey and Co Inc, outlined four factors which companies might need to take account of to succeed in this market.

The first of the factors that Mr Parker thought explained the lack of success of British firms was the tendency to underestimate the opportunities and the rewards of the American market.

Mr Parker held the view that there were five main attractions to doing business in the United States. First was access to the largest and by far the most sophisticated market in the world. Second were the attractions of operating within a system of still relatively free enterprise. Third was the potential for profitable operations in a politically and socially stable economy. Fourth was the availability of investment funds from a wide spectrum of financial sources – for example, venture capital was much easier to find in the United States than it was in the UK. Fifth was the access to new technology.

These were, he thought, five good reasons why British companies should be more interested in the American market than they had typically been up to now.

Mr Parker said, as his second factor, British companies also had a tendency to underestimate the difficulties and hidden obstacles. What were some of the potential problems that a company had to take into account and be prepared to deal with?

First, he said, federal and state employment laws were extremely strict in the United States; for example, Office of Safety and Health Administration had laid down extremely strict rules.

Second, there was the whole problem of state and federal tax legislation. In the United States, he continued, in contrast to the UK, there were not two but three quite distinct levels of taxation; federal, state and local. 'This situation must be clearly understood well by any British company that hopes to succeed in that country.'

Third, the federal anti-trust and trade regulation laws were also extremely strict and extremely complex – and Mr Parker stressed that ignorance of the law could lead to disaster. Fourth, United States' accounting standards and practices were very different from those prevailing in this country, and they too must be understood and also the Securities and Exchange Commission regulations and information disclosure requirements were much more complex than anything comparable in Britain. Finally, Mr Parker said, there were other miscellaneous but equally important regulations governing such things as equal employment opportunity, truth in advertising, product liability and so forth.

Mr Parker's third factor was the lack of understanding of the US market. This had been perhaps the biggest stumbling block of all, since the United States market was unique in several respects.

There was the market's immense diversity in terms of regional, ethnic and traditional divisions. Pointing out the need to understand the sheer scale of the American market, Mr Parker said the United States' gross national product was eight times that of the United Kingdom though the population is only four times as great: the average gnp per head of population was double that of this country and the United States had approximately 40 times the land area of the UK.

To illustrate the effects of this difference of scale Mr Parker cited the experience of a British knitwear manufacturer. When the firm attempted to market its products in the United States it found that the production needed to fulfil any kind of successful order would be several times as great as the company's total UK capacity. There was also, Mr Parker went on, the greater sophistication of American customers and competitors; the volatility of the market which changed more quickly and swung much more drastically from one extreme to another than the UK market.

Fourth, as the need for a strategic rather than tactical approach to the United States Mr Parker said that British companies tackling the United States in a sensible way had to do so as a part of their total strategy, not merely as a simple one-off exercise to take advantage of some fleeting, perhaps localised opportunity. 'Failure to think strategically has been the undoing of many British companies who have tried to tackle the American market.'

Planning entry

In planning entry into the United States, Mr Parker said, a British company ought normally to proceed in a series of steps, each more sophisticated and requiring greater commitment than the last. Typically, he said, British companies started by exporting through agents. This was the least risky mode of operation, requiring the least investment. 'But it is also likely to produce the least results. Successful experience in exporting through agents can be, and probably is, the best way to find one's feet in the American market. The next stage, of course, is exporting through one's own channels of distribution, with one's own warehousing and selling organisation. This obviously requires greater commitment, greater resources, greater knowledge and greater sophistication; but altogether, it entails greater risk. Once that stage has been successfully surmounted, the next step may be partial local manufacture and assembly of shipped-in components. The final stage, of course, is full manufacturing, distribution and sales capability in the United States.'

Atlanta, Georgia the target for the London Chamber of Commerce and Industries trade mission in October 1978. Already the cultural and financial centre of the United States' south-east, Georgia continues to increase its involvement in international trade and foreign investment. Georgia has much to offer the more than 200 foreign firms established there.

Overseas trade export services

New service from Cardiff to the US Gulf

Next month the first containerised service from Cardiff to the Gulf of the United States will begin. The service will be operated by the Bank Line and will offer regular, direct sailings to New Orleans and Houston. The transit time from the UK to New Orleans is 11 days.

Cardiff has been chosen as a loading port for two reasons says Bank Line. First that shippers in the Midlands and the south-west have previously suffered from the lack of a fast, efficient regional service, and secondly, that it is ideally situated for road and rail links with the rest of the UK.

The vessels to be used on the service will be four sister ships of the *Corabank* class, used on Bank Line's Australian and Papua New Guinea services. The *Corabank* class are composite vessels with a high container-load factor, break bulk, and heavy lift capabilities.

Arrangements have been made for less-than-container-load cargo to be accepted at depots at Braehead, Renfrewshire, at Trafford Park, Manchester, and at Brentford, Middlesex.

Escombe McGrath of Liverpool has been appointed as general loading brokers and the co-ordination of freight discharge and distribution in the United States will be handled by the Gulf Coast Shipping Corporation.

Further information: circle 695

Pandair to emphasise Germany in new division

Completing its restructuring begun last year, Pandair, the international air freight forwarders, has formed a new division to centralise control of sales, marketing and air distribution services throughout Europe, the Middle East and all areas of Africa.

Stan Chance, chief executive of the new division, said at a press conference on 15 June that there would be an emphasis on building up the German side of the operation, including the expansion of charter services from Germany. At the moment Pandair, through its subsidiary Pandair Internationale Luftfracht, has already established freighting facilities at Frankfurt, Düsseldorf and Hamburg and it is likely, Mr Chance said, that further facilities will be established in other important freight generating centres.

In all its other areas, Mr Chance stressed, Pandair's intention was to strengthen and reinforce existing facilities and services and to extend them into neighbouring areas where it was found that prevailing services were either lacking or inadequate to meet the requirements of established and developing markets.

The division, he said, would operate as a self-contained and autonomous unit and would be responsible for its own budgetary and financial targets embracing all aspects of operations within its regional authority.

Further information: circle 696

Export services: now every week

Export services will now appear every week in the pages of *Trade and Industry*.

If your company has recently introduced a new service for exporters – in, for example, the packing, forwarding, shipping, airfreighting, banking or translation fields – we would be glad to have details, plus a good black and white photograph where appropriate.

Items for inclusion in this feature should be addressed to the Overseas Editor, Trade and Industry, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1.

Advertisers who wish to be associated with this feature should contact Dudley Masters on 01-242-9478.

Autotelex to Chile

An automatic telex service from the UK to Chile came into operation for the first time on 12 June, providing faster and more convenient links for most calls made to the South American country by Britain's 71 000 telex users.

The new autotelex service is available for calls to five-digit numbers, except those beginning 25 and 80, in the Chilean State Telegraph (TDE) network. This means that UK users can now make these calls direct without the help of an international telex operator. Setting up calls to other Chilean telex numbers will still require operator assistance.

About 2000 telex calls are made each month

Freepost reader service

For further information on items in this section, circle the corresponding number on the reader services page near the end of the magazine.

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Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

A volume of tables giving particulars of the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages for the more important industries and occupations, and of the normal weekly hours for which these rates are payable. The details given relate to the position as at April 1, 1977, but any later changes known to have come into operation are shown.

£6.25 (by post £6.57½)

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH). Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers.

HMSO BOOKS

from the UK to the TDE network. Chile is well known for its rich mineral deposits, and major British users of the service include the copper, iron ore and nitrate industries.

An autotelex call to Chile costs 90p a minute, compared with the operator-connected charge of £2.70 for a three-minute minimum period and 90p for each additional minute. These prices are subject to VAT.

Further information: circle 697

Davies Turner opens Iraq office

Davies Turner has opened its own offices in Iraq's capital, Baghdad.

This follows the company signing a contract with Iraq's General Establishment for Transport of General Cargo (Getco) and the lodging of a $150,000 performance bond with the Public Company for Land Transport (PCLT). The contract with Getco, which is non-negotiable, calls for specific representation in Baghdad which Davies Turner now have.

Davies Turner claims it is the only all-British independent forwarding company to have signed the agreement with Getco and this action has meant continued work into Iraq for the British hauliers used by Davies Turner.

Further information: circle 698

New rates to Tehran

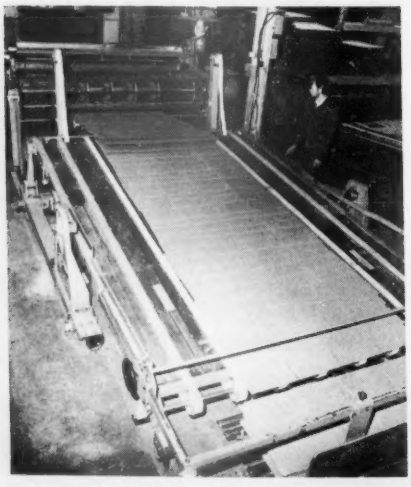
Keyways, the Ellerman Group forwarding company, has reshaped its Tehran groupage tariff to reflect operational economies which have become possible since the service was first introduced in May 1977. Rates were on a sliding scale, reducing with the tonnage shipped. A new single line rate is now offered, irrespective of the tonnage involved. Shippers of small consignments will enjoy a price reduction of 19 per cent, and those shipping 5000 kg or more will save 7.5 per cent.

Further information: circle 699

Abbotts' new line for cartons

The new line comprising a printer slotter, a stacker take-off, a roller conveyor feeding a folder/gluer/stitcher, and a tying machine at Abbotts Packaging, Brackley, case plant. This provides an improved facility which, in addition to printing in one colour up to a rate of 12 000 blanks per hour, has the flexibility for glueing and /or wire stitching. It is this combination which gives added strength to cases for heavy duty and export applications.

Further information: circle 700



Loading trailer from Vulcan

A new trailer specially designed for transporting and handling LD3 cargo containers for Boeing 747 jumbo jet airliners, designed by Vulcan Trucks Ltd, Poole. The new trailer incorporates three rows of rollers to facilitate container handling, including roller extensions at front and rear to enable containers to be moved smoothly and easily along a complete train of dollies. The central section of the trailer comprises a rotating platform mounted on a ball-type ring turntable.

Gatwick cargo set to grow

British Airways is expecting substantial growth in its cargo business at Gatwick this summer because of a programme of major innovations.

The programme, now under way, includes the installation of container handling equipment, the introduction of an import cargo computer system, the start of new British Airways direct international services with cargo capacity, additional cargo handling for other airlines and a 60 per cent increase in warehouse space.

Already a container handling system of hydraulic lifts, roller beds and storage areas is in operation, and recently the final component, an airside lift,was dropped into place by crane.

As a result inbound or outbound containers weighing up to 4½ tonnes can now be moved easily and efficiently through the newly-opened Cargocentre.

This equipment means that BA can load or unload containers from aircraft using any type of container vehicle and tranship containers on its daily van service to and from Heathrow, linking Gatwick to British Airways' world-wide route network. BA can accept fully-laden containers to or from local agents and, even though the freight may be flying through Heathrow, all the documentation and customs clearance can be done at Gatwick.

On 1 July British Airways is introducing three new international scheduled flights from Gatwick, all with cargo capacity to Frankfurt, Dusseldorf and Dublin.

The present Cargocentre, with more than 15 000 ft² of warehouse space, opened last October and is four times larger than its predecessor. Approval has been given for a further expansion of 9000 ft² to cope with growth.

Last year British Airways handled some 3000 tonnes of freight at Gatwick and expects to beat this figure in the current year.

A further improvement will be the introduction of the Laces computerised import control system in the coming months. Laces is already in use at Heathrow and its arrival at Gatwick will speed import documentation and Customs clearance.

Further information: circle 701

Name change for executive movers

Specialists in moving executive households, the International Moving company, of Giltspur Shipping, is now operating under the name of Giltspur International Moving.

The company was originally formed in 1971 and has rapidly become one of the foremost experts in the field, working for the majority of multinational companies from Giltspur's London and Aberdeen bases. The name change recognises the importance of the international moving business as a rapid growth sector and enables Giltspur to expand its operations at a faster rate.

Further information: circle 702

Overseas trade country data

Argentina

Amendments to import tariff. The Argentine Ministry of Economy has passed several resolutions amending the import tariff. The goods affected fall within the following chapters of the tariff:

4, 5, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 62, 63, 64, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98 and 99.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476.

Australia

Cheese. The Australian government has sent a reference to the Industries Assistance Commission requesting it to inquire into and to report within six months on the question whether assistance should be accorded to the production in Australia of all items of cheese falling under tariff item 04.04.

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing, the date of which has not yet been announced, should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600, Australia, without delay. Evidence may be submitted either through an accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 6th Floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PW, tel. 01-930 2524, who will represent UK interests if authorised.

The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Reference: CRE 1056/78.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Export (CRE) Division, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension.

Undergarments, sleepwear, hosiery. The Australian government has requested the Industries Assistance Commission to inquire into and to report by 28 July on the question of whether short-term additional assistance should be accorded the production in Australia of undergarments and knitted sleepwear (tariff items 60.04.2, 60.04.6, 61.03.3, 61.03.4, 61.04.4) and hosiery (tariff items 60.03 or 60.04.4).

UK firms or trade associations intending to submit evidence at the public hearing, the date and location of which will be published as soon as it is known, should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission, PO Box 80, Canberra, ACT 2600, without delay.

Evidence may be submitted either through the accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned, or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 6th Floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PW, tel. 01-930 2524 who will represent UK firms' interests if authorised.

The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the scope of the work entailed in preparing a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1055/78

Bed sheeting bounty. The Australian government has made a reference to the Industries Assistance Commission on the question whether the conditions for eligibility for the payment of bounty under the Bed Sheeting Bounty Act 1977 should be amended so as to make bounty payable on printed bed sheeting of 20 per cent or more of man-made fibres in admixture with cotton and used in the making up of bed-linen.

The fabric under reference is that as described above and which is woven and printed in the manufacturing premises of the producer, whether or not the process of making it up into bed-linen is carried out by the same producer.

Interested parties who wish to make their views known on this reference should advise the Secretary, Industries Assistance Commission PO Box 80, Canberra ACT 2600, Australia immediately. Evidence may be submitted either through an accredited agent of the firm or trade association concerned or through the Australian-British Trade Association, 6th Floor, Dorland House, 18-20 Lower Regent Street, London SW1Y 4PW, tel. 01-930 2524, who will represent UK interests if authorised.

The association charges a fee for its services, the amount varying according to the work entailed in the preparation of a submission and whether or not the interested party is a member.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5319.

Ref: CRE 1054/78

Vices. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 9 September 1977, reported a reference to the Industries Assistance Commission on the question of protection for that sector of the local industry which manufactures vices (tariff heading 82.04) against imports of these goods.

Following a report by the commission on vices, the Australian government has announced that tariff quotas will be maintained on industrial vices until at least December 1978.

The level of the tariff quota is raised to A$ 200,000 per annum and the additional duty of A$ 12 per vice in excess of the quota still remains.

The tariff quotas on handyman vices will be discontinued from July 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Hoists, pulley tackle and winches. A notice in *Trade and Industry*, 13 January, gave the dates of the public inquiry into the question of protection to the local industry against imports of these products.

The Australian government has now considered the Industries Assistance Commission's report of the inquiry following which it has announced that tariff quotas will continue to apply to imports of endless-chain, hand-operated pulley tackle and hoists (CCN 84.22), after 31 July.

Quota entitlements will be 6000 units for period 1 August 1978 to 31 January 1979 and 7000 units for the period 1 February 1979 to 31 July 1979.

Any imports in excess of these quota entitlements will continue to be subject to additional duty of 50 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 468/469/401.

Austria

Salt monopoly. The following information is a summary extracted from BGBl. January 1978, Part 37, Section 124.

The salt monopoly is to remain in force and all imports presently controlled by the monopoly are still subject to the authorisation. However, no salt monopoly levy will be charged on these goods entering Austria from 1 May 1978. The following CCCN nos. are affected:

21.04; 25.01; 33.06; 38.19.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Paper and paper products. The Austrian Federal Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry has declared in the BGBl of 5 May that the duty-free quota for the following products of UK origin is now exhausted:

CCCN no. 48.05. Corrugated paper and paper board (with or without flat surfaces); paper and paper board creped, crinkled, pressed or stamped, embossed or perforated, in rolls or sheets.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Imports of iron. A decree by the Minister of Trade, Commerce and Industry of 14 March, regarding obligatory import licenses for pig iron and hot rolled wide strip has been published in the BGBl 31 March, Part 51, Section 153.

In accordance with section 5 of the Foreign Trade Law 1968, BGBl 314, as set out in federal law BGBl 401 of 1974, the main committee

of the Austrian parliament has decreed that:

Legal transactions which are concerned with the import of the following goods are subject to obligatory licensing as set out in section 3 (1) of the Foreign Trade Law 1968.

CCCN no.	Description
73.01	Pig iron (including Spiegeleisen) in bars, pigs, blocks,etc but excluding foundry pig iron.
73.08	Hot-rolled wide strip of iron or steel in coils.

This decree becomes effective on 1 April 1978 and will remain in force until 31 December 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Barbados

Import licensing. The Barbados authorities have announced amendments to the import licensing list. The following no longer require a licence:

Tariff no.	Description of goods
16.04	Sardines

Licences are now required for:

Tariff no.	Description of goods
90.03	Frames (plastic) for spectacles
90.04	Sunglasses

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Belgium

Aerosols. The *Moniteur Belge*, 99, 25 May, published a decree dated 14 April which takes into consideration EEC directive 75/324 relating to aerosol dispensers. The decree entered into force on 25 May.

Copies of this decree (in French) are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467

Brazil

Exemption from prior deposit. Banco Central resolution 473, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 28 April, added coke (sub-heading 27.04.01.00) to the list of goods which are exempt from the 360 day prior deposit requirement for imports.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Temporary exemption from duty on wool. Customs Policy Council resolution 3159, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 28 April, exempted from import duty until 30 September 1978, a quota of 6350 tonnes of wool under tariff headings 53.01.01.01, 53.01.01.02 and 53.01.01.03 (present duties 20 per cent, 30 per cent and 17 per cent respectively).

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty concessions removed. Customs Policy Council resolution 3162, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 5 May, removed or modified a number of herbicides and fungicides under tariff heading 38.11 from the list of those exempt from duty under resolution 2942.

A copy of resolution 3162, in Portuguese, specifying the goods affected, is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

New reference prices for some chemicals. Customs Policy Council resolutions 3149 to 3158 inclusive, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 28 April, established new reference prices for goods in the following headings:

Tariff heading	Product	New reference price per tonne cif US$
28.25.01.01	Titanium dioxide (anastase type)	1 082
28.25.01.02	Titanium dioxide (rutile type)	1 045
29.01.30.00	Benzene	280
29.04.13.00	Methanol	185
29.08.31.00	Butylic ether of monoethyleneglycol	834
29.08.99.00	Triethyleneglycol	924
29.15.05.02	Maleic anhydride	829
29.35.29.00	Melamine	905
34.04.01.01	Solid polyethyleneglycol	1 216
39.02.02.13	Acrylonitrile butadiene styrene	1 435

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Duty concessions on chemicals for agriculture. Customs Policy Council resolution 3160, published in the *Diario Oficial*, 4 May, extended until 3 May 1979, duty concessions on some chemical products when used in agriculture and cattle-raising, and in the preparation and/or manufacture of products for use in these industries.

The goods in the following subheadings are exempt from duty:

25.03.01.00, 28.08.01.00, 28.08.02.00, 28.16.01.00, 28.39.19.01, 31.01.01.00, 31.01.02.00, 31.01.03.00, 31.01.99.00, 31.02.01.00, 31.02.02.00, 31.02.04.00, 31.02.05.00, 31.02.07.00, 31.02.08.00, 31.02.09.00, 31.02.10.00, 31.02.99.00, 31.03.01.00, 31.03.02.00, 31.03.03.00, 31.03.07.00, 31.04.01.00, 31.04.02.00, 31.04.03.00, 31.04.04.00, 31.04.99.00, 31.05.04.00, 31.05.05.00.

The duty on goods in the following subheadings is reduced from 15 per cent to 10 per cent:

31.05.02.00, 31.05.03.00, 31.05.06.00, 31.05.99.00.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Canada

Hazardous Products Act. The Canadian Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs announced on 30 May an immediate ban on the import, advertising and selling of all sneezing powders containing 3.3 dimethoxybenzidine under the regulations of the Hazardous Products Act.

The chemical, which has been found in samples of sneezing powder tested by the Product Safety Branch, is suspected of causing cancer in humans.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 455/456/457.

Chile

Import surcharge on second-hand goods. Chilean Ministry of Finance decree 299 published on 25 May, amends the surcharge on imports of used or second-hand consumer goods from 150 per cent to 100 per cent.

Imports of used capital goods are still exempt from this surcharge, provided that they are specifically authorised by the Chilean Central Bank on the import registration form.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 474/476

Finland

Consumer protection. Law 38 of 20 January contains regulations relating to the sale and marketing of consumer goods by the trader to the consumer, and comes into force on 1 September 1978.

Copies of an unofficial translation of extracts of the law and copies of the complete law in Swedish may be obtained from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 460.

France

Forklift and works trucks. An order published in the *Official Journal* of 2 June introduced new standard requirements for fork-lift trucks and works trucks (ex CCCN 84.22 and 87.07) under the following NF H numbers 96-002, 96-301, 96-302, 96-303, 96-304, 96-311, 96-401, 96-402, 96-405, 96-502, 96-503. Compliance with these requirements will become compulsory with effect from 2 December.

Copies of these standard specifications can be obtained from British Standards Institution, Sales Department, Nowton House, 101 Pentonville Road, London N1.

Copies of the relevant legislative texts in French can be obtained from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 423.

Textile products. An order published in the *Official Journal* of 2 June imposed a ban of one year from the date of publication on the importation and sale of all textile products treated with Tris (tri(2, 3 dibromopropyl)orthophosphate).

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 423.

Grenada

Stamp duty. The Grenada authorities have announced an increase in the rate of stamp duty. The new rate is 7½ per cent of the cif value on each set of customs bills of entry.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Purchase tax. The Grenada authorities have announced the introduction of a purchase tax. The following goods are subject to the tax at the rate shown.

Description of goods	Rate of tax
Radios	20 per cent
Television receiving sets	20 per cent

Inquiries: 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Indonesia

Raw materials for Formica and glue manufacture. The Indonesian Director General of Customs and Excise has announced, retroactive from 1 September 1977, partial exemption of import duty on the import of raw materials used in Formica and glue production, for neoresin and phenolic resin (tariff heading 39.01.10) and Neoprene (tariff heading 40.06.30).

The import duty will be 20 per cent and the

sales tax 10 per cent. The Formica and glue production factories must submit a written application to the Director General of Customs and Exise to obtain the exemption in import duty.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Ckd level for radio communication equipment etc. The Indonesian Director General of the Metal and Machines Industry announced, on 20 April, that, for each type of radio communication and transmission equipment, amplifier, radio cassette recorder, tape recorder, exhaust fans, refrigrators and sewing machine imported, the 'completely knocked down' (ckd) component list must be sent to the minister for prior approval.

This is effective for the import of goods, the letter of credit of which is opened on or after 1 October and the imported goods must have entered the Indonesian territory at the latest on 31 December 1978.

Loan copies of the regulations including a list of acceptable components are available on request from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 469/401/468.

Republic of Ireland

Colouring agents in foods. The Irish authorities have issued Statutory Instrument 140 of 1978, entitled Health (Colouring Agents in Foods) (Amendment) Regulations 1978, which amends the Health (Colouring Agents in Foods) Regulations 1973, by the deletion of the six following colours:

E 105 Fast Yellow AB
E 121 Orchil
E 130 Solanthrene Blue RS
E 152 Black 7984
E 181 Burnt Umber and Orange RN

With effect from 1 June 1978 these colours are no longer permitted for use in or on food.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

Erucic acid in food. The Irish authorities have issued Statutory Instrument 123 of 1978 entitled Health (Erucic Acid in Food) Regulations 1978. The regulations implementing EEC directive 76/621, apply to oils, fats and mixtures thereof, intended for human consumption, and compounded foodstuffs to which oils, fats or mixtures thereof have been added, and the overall oil or fat content exceeds 5 per cent.

From 1 May 1978, the level of erucic acid in such products should not exceed 10 per cent calculated on the total level of fatty acids in the fat component.

From 1 July 1979, this level shall not exceed 5 per cent.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

Israel

Import duty amendments. Amendments have been issued to the Israeli customs tariff affecting the following CCCN numbers:

03.02, 07.04, 07.05, 09.02, 11.05, 12.01, 18.01, 18.03, 18.04, 20.02, 24.02, 25.23, 29.25

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Italy

Units of measurement. The *Gazzetta Ufficiale* supplement 112, 22 April, published decree-law 122, 14 April, which implements EEC directive 71/354 and EEC directive 76/770, relating to units of measurement.

The decree-law deals with the 'SI' system of measurement, which is adopted from 23 April 1978.

Copies of the decree-law, in Italian, are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

Additives to animal feedstuffs. The *Gazzetta Ufficiale* 129, 11 May, published a ministerial decree, incorporating into national legislation EEC directive 76/934 of 1 December 1976, which amends the annex of directive 74/63 of 17 December 1973, relating to the establishing of maximum quantities of undesirable substances and products in animal feedstuffs. The decree has effect from 11 May 1978.

Copies of the decree, in Italian, are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 466/467/288.

Mauritius

Budget. The following are some of the measures proposed in the budget:

1 Private companies will pay tax at a higher rate of 60 per cent, but the rate for public companies will remain unchanged at 50 per cent.
2 Import deposit scheme abolished with immediate effect. An additional fiscal duty of 5 per cent will be levied on a selected list of items covered by the scheme.
3 Fans and air conditioners will now be liable to import duty. (So far unspecified).
4 Duty on all non-electrical musical instruments abolished.
5 A new excise duty at the rate of 10 per cent will be levied on cigarettes with an equivalent countervailing duty on imported cigarettes.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 471.

Montserrat

Imports of beer, wines, etc. The Montserrat authorities have set up the Montserrat Development Finance and Marketing Corporation to be sole importers of specified produce. No other person or organisation may import any 'specified produce' except under licence from the corporation. Those goods affected are beer, spirits, wines and cigarettes. A fee will be charged for the licences.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 7312/456/457.

Morocco

Import duties. The Ministry of Finance has announced changes in duty rates to items under BN 68.01 and 68.02. The duties for these items now read as follows:

BN/Description	Duty
68.01	
Road and paving slabs, curbs and flagstones, of natural stone (except slate):	
A Of marble	150%
B Other	15%
68.02	
Worked monumental or building stone, and articles thereof (including mosaic cubes) other than goods falling within BN 68.01 or within chapter 69:	
A. Worked monumental or building stone:	
1 Of marble	150%
2 Other	80%
B Mosaic cubes; powder, granules and chippings artificially coloured:	
1 Of marble	150%
2 Other	80%

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 462.

Netherlands

Colourings etc. A decree, 25 April (Staatsblad 265), published on 1 June 1978 amends the Colouring Matter, Cheese, Mayonnaise and Salad cream, Mustard, and Spices Decrees (Commodity Act).

Copies of this decree (in Dutch) are available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

New Zealand

Budget. On 1 June Mr Muldoon, the New Zealand Prime Minister and Minister of Finance presented his 1978 budget. The main features likely to be of interest to UK exporters were as follows:

Farming

The government will provide special cash payments to compensate for loss of income last year and to encourage new development programmes. This will cost an estimated NZ $60 million. Other assistance, totalling about NZ $92 million in 1978-79 and NZ $109 million in a full year, will include government underwriting of minimum prices for lamb, mutton and beef and a dairy board market guarantee scheme.

Fishing

The government has extended up to the 31 March 1980 the period for importing fishing vessels free of duty. Special suspensory loans to modify gear or re-equip, or purchase suitable New Zealand-built vessels will also be made available. Fish packing houses installing new plant and machinery to comply with hygiene regulations will qualify for an investment grant.

Energy conservation

To encourage the use of natural gas and liquid petroleum gas (lpg) firms will be assisted to convert business vehicles to lpg use through a 100 per cent tax write-off for conversion costs while householders using natural gas or lpg will be eligible for loans covering the purchases and connection of appliances.

Duty levied on motor spirits will be increased by 3 cents per litre and sales tax will be reduced on motor cycles under 250cc. Loans will also be made available for purchase and installation of approved solar water-heating systems.

The tariff policy will be reviewed to ensure it does not encourage the manufacture of equipment that is less energy efficient than equipment available from overseas.

Tax cuts

About 1.4 million taxpayers will receive tax cuts ranging up to NZ $382 per year bringing the total tax reduction to some NZ $520 million in a full year.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5321.

Nigeria

Shipping. The Nigerian federal military government has promulgated a decree prohibiting the use of Nigerian ports by foreign ships more than 15 years old. The effective date of this decree is 13 August.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 3064/3338.

Norway

Import licensing for syrup. The Norwegian authorities have announced that imports of syrup which do not contain more than 25 per cent of added starch syrup are now subject to import licensing.

This does not apply to grape syrup or starch syrup, although the latter item, if of special quality for supplying to industry, is subject to global quota.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 458/461.

Panama

Import quotas. The Panamanian Ministry of Commerce and Industries announced in resolutions 208 and 227, published in the *Official Gazette* on 12 and 24 May 1978 respectively, the following import quotas:

Tariff heading/Description	Quota
642.09.12 Plates, of paper or paperboard, plain, printed or decorated, round or square, sizes 6, 7, 9, and 10 in Paper or paperboard glasses for hot drinks, capacity 6 oz, with or without handles, plain or decorated	5% of the total imports for 1976
841.06.00 841.07.00 Security clothing	5% of the total imports for 1976
841.12.01 Workmen's gloves	5% of the total imports for 1976

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 476/474.

Philippines

Restrictions on tv and radio components. On the 27 March the Philippines government published letter of instruction 656 which came into force on the 10 January 1978 whereby the importation of parts, components and supplies, to be used for local manufacture of television and radio equipment as indicated below, is restricted.

This is because the government is supporting the Electronics Local Content Program (ELCP) intended to increase the manufacture, in the Philippines, of certain television and radio equipment.

No foreign exchange will be used for the importation of the components and parts concerned without a certificate from the Board of Investment that the importer is not covered by the ELCP.

The Board of Investment is to make periodic reviews of the ELCP and will recommend whether or not the import restriction should remain in force.

Parts, components and supplies prescribed as local content under the ELCP

1 Printed circuit boards.
2 Coils and transformers.
3 Cabinets and loudspeakers enclosures.
4 Chassis, and sheet metalwares attached to chassis and forming part thereof.
5 Cabinet and chassis accessories, decorative trims, speaker grilles, nameplates, emblems, dials, knobs, backcovers, crt cups, masks, grille cloth, escutcheons, frames, fronts, control panel assemblies, bezels sliding door railings/guides, lug-type terminal strips.
6 Monochrome tv picture tubes.
7 Loudspeakers.
8 Antenna.
9 Single conductor hook-up wires (pre-cut and/or pre-trimmed) and power cords.
10 Solder.
11 Plastic brackets and supports.
12 Packaging materials.
13 Mechanical tv tuners, am, fm and am/fm tuners.

Notes

1 The following components are, however, exempted:
- a For item 1, those which form part of assemblies specifically exempted.
- b For item 2, yoke, flyback, convergence, delay lines, and pincusion assemblies, molded coils, encapsulated peaking coils, encapsulated lc or lr modules, crystal filter modules, buffer, coupler, toroidal, and those used in tv tuners and in discrete 4-channel stereo demodulator.
- c For item 5, metal knobs, die-cast frames, die-cast fronts, and die-cast control and panel assemblies.
- d For item 8, telescopic antenna.
- c For item 13, tv tuners for colour tv, push button type am and/or fm tuners for cars radios, and pm-4 channel tuner/demodulator.

2 Importation of cabinet and chassis accessories for colour tv may be allowed subject to prior BoI approval.
3 Importation of high fidelity loudspeakers shall be allowed subject to prior BoI approval.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Portugal

Import of basic foodstuffs. Portuguese *Diario da Republica*, 125, 1 June, contained memorandum 128/78 which established the following ceilings for certain basic foodstuffs for 1978 to be imported by the Junta Nacional dos Produtos Pecuarios, a government buying agency:

Beef, in quarters	10 800 tons
Boned beef	4 500 tons
Liquid milk	8 500 000 litres
Full fat dried milk	1 500 tons
Skimmed dried milk	2 000 tons
Butter	2 500 tons
Ox liver	500 tons
Tripe	1 000 tons

Correspondence should be addressed to: Dr Jose Machado Reya, Junta Nacional dos Produtos Pecuarios, Rua Castilho 20, Lisbon.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 460.

Import ceilings for cereals. The import ceilings for cereals to be purchased in 1978 by Epac, the buying agency of the Portuguese government, are as follows:

Goods	Tons
Rice	47 000
Yellow maize	2 015 000
White maize	10 000
Sorghum	476 000
Wheat	660 000
Rye	30 000
Seeds	10 000

Correspondence should be addressed to: Empresa Publica de Abastecimento de Cereais (Epac), Direccao de Infra-Estruturas, Avenida Almirante Gago Coutinho, Lote 1618, Piso 11, Lisbon.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 460.

Turnover tax. The Portuguese budget for 1978 provided for an increase in the levy on turnover tax to 30 per cent. The levy is charged on all goods subject to the tax and gives effective rates of 13 per cent, 26 per cent, 39 per cent and 65 per cent.

It also applies to those special rates of turnover tax on certain alcoholic beverages.

The lists of goods affected remains unchanged and copies may be obtained from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 460.

Saudi Arabia

Use of Arabic. The following classification has been received about the government's directive on the use of Arabic.

The ministerial directive applies only to correspondence. Although the directive does not specifically exclude bids, it is understood that only the covering letter or preface must be in Arabic but specific advice from the relevant Saudi Arabian government department should always be sought.

Only firms operating or having offices in the kingdom are obliged to comply with this directive. Although firms not operating in Saudi Arabia are not compelled to submit Arabic translations of their correspondence, letters will be more effective if an Arabic translation is sent.

The directive applies to all correspondence with government departments and agencies such as Petromin, Sabic etc.

Failure to observe the rules can result in fines of up to 10 000 rials for each contravention and for repeated violations of the law, additionally the offender may be boycotted for a year.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 475. CRE: 01-215 5221/5396.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs tariff application list no. 17/78, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 16 June, contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on:

1 Ionization smoke detectors, classifiable under tariff subheading 85.17.10.
2 Sorbitol, classifiable under tariff subheading 29.04.80.

Those British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE 01-215 5274.

Suriname

Restriction on import of cars. As part of the Suriname government's policy aimed at improving the balance of payments, no further applications for the importation of motor cars will be approved until further notice. Current licences will be honoured but not extended.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 288/466/467.

CRE tel. Direct dialling

OTAR telephone 01-248 5757
Extensions to **OTAR** numbers are given at the end of each notice

Switzerland

Tobacco tax. The Swiss federal council, regarding the federal law October 1977 amending the federal law, 21 March 1969 on the tax on tobacco, has amended the duty on cigarettes as follows:

Price categories	Up to 800g. (weight per 1 000 units, including paper, but not including the filter)
Up to 8ct	36.00 Swiss francs
Up to 9ct	40.80 Swiss francs
Up to 10ct	42.00 Swiss francs
Up to 10.5ct	42.60 Swiss francs
Over 10.5ct	43.20 Swiss francs

The order of 10 April 1974 raising the imported duty on cigarettes is abrogated.

The present order enters into force on 1 October 1978.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 459.

Thailand

Foodstuffs labelling. The Thai Ministry of Public Health has issued notice 44 (1977), which came into force on 17 April and deals with labelling regulations for foodstuffs.

Copies of these regulations are available.

Inquiries: OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

Telephone receivers

The notice in *Trade and Industry*, 9 June, page 553, should have been headed 'Import fee on telephone receivers.'

Water residue of sodium glutamate. The Thai Ministry of Public Health has issued notice 39 (1977), which came into effect on 17 April, whereby the water residue of sodium glutamate production is classified as a food, subject to specification of quality or standards and other regulations.

United Kingdom exporters can obtain copies of these regulations from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 401/468/469.

United States

Speciality steel quota reallocations. For stainless steel bar (item 923.22), the Canadian quota was reduced by 245 tons and the quota for communist countries by 2 tons. Of this 75 tons were given to the EEC and 170 tons to countries with most-favoured nation status. Two of the tons identified as shortfall were not reallocated.

For alloy tool steel (item 923.26), the quota for communist countries was reduced by 6 tons, all of which has been allocated to other MFN countries.

Reduction in quotas became effective on 8 June, increases became effective on 10 June.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.

Food additives. The *Federal Register* 26 May, published a notice by the Food and Drugs Administration detailing an additional list of flavouring substances which are considered generally recognised as safe, (Gras).

A copy of the text is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 Ext. 456/457/7312.

Aerosols. The *Federal Register*, 30 May, published a final rule by the Consumer Product Safety Commission classifying any self-pressurised container containing vinyl chloride monomer as a banned hazardous product.

The effective date of the rule is 22 June 1978 and applies to products manufactured or imported on or after 7 October 1974.

A copy of the text is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Medical devices. The Food and Drug Administration announced in the *Federal Register*, 12 May, a tentative final regulation for procedures for Investigational Device Exemptions (IDE) which sets out requirements for the conduct of investigations of medical devices involving human subjects.

Comments should be received by 11 September 1978, addressed to Hearing Clerk (HFC-20) Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Md 20857 identified by Doc No 76N-0324.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.

Sodium thiosulfate. The *Federal Register*, 30 May, published a final rule by the Food and Drugs Administration affirming that sodium thiosulfate is generally recognised as safe as a food ingredient.

A copy of the text is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Bakery products. The *Federal Register*, 26 May, published a rule proposed by the Food and Drugs Administration to amend the standard of identity for bread, rolls and buns by removing the limit on the use of fat-forming fatty acids.

Written comments (4 copies) should be sent by 25 June to Food and Drug Administration, Room 4-65, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

A copy of the text is available from OTAR 01-248 5757 ext. 456/457/7312.

Occupant crash protection. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced in the *Federal Register*, 22 May, a proposal to amend Federal motor vehicle safety standard 208, occupant crash protection, to give vehicle manufacturers the option of using alternatives to latches for occupant release from passive seat belt systems and of using means other than pushbuttons to operate the mechanism.

Comments should be addressed to Docket Section, Room 5108, Nassif Building, 400 Seventh St SW, Washington DC 20590 by 3 July 1978.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.

Imports of speciality steels under quota. Imports in pounds weights from the EEC for the remaining product with the quota still open as at 2 June were as follows:

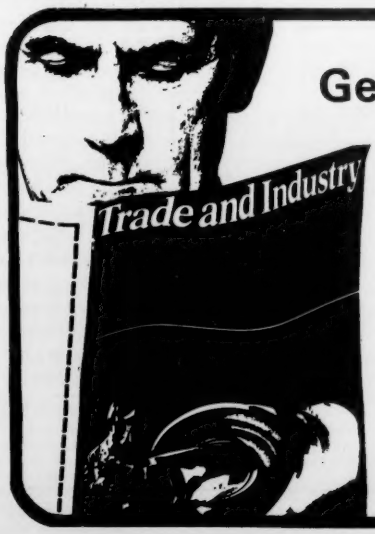
Plates of stainless steel (item 923.21)	7,375,504.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.

Benzene. The Consumer Product Safety Commission announced in the *Federal Register*, 19 May, a proposal to regulate consumer products except gasoline and solvents or reagents for laboratory use, containing benzene as an intentional ingredient under the Consumer Product Safety Act instead of under the Federal Hazardous Substances Act.

Comments should be addressed to the Office of the Secretary, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington DC 20207, by 30 June 1978.

Inquiries: CRE 01-215 5397.



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Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series are seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
				of which			of which					
			Total	Manufacturing industry	Distributive and service industries excl. shipping	Total	Manufacturing industry	Wholesalers	Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index Series in Stock level at end-1976	1970	£ million	£ million			£ million 18,401	10,762	1,938	1,946	£ million		
1971	101.8	32 675	9 682	1 988	1 922	92	−148	52	18	1 074	279	795
1972	104.2	34 542	9 797	1 721	2 035	34	−145	48	15	126	−701	827
1973	110.4	36 062	10 253	1 730	2 377	1 321	597	102	379	−883	−2 354	1 471
1974	109.5	35 631	10 287	1 964	2 300	596	634	81	−109	−3 515	−5 195	1 680
1975	107.2	35 269	9 640	1 695	1 921	−842	−429	−111	−65	−1 617	−3 205	1 588
1976	109.7	35 406	9 444	1 633	1 900	97	5	23	9	−859	−3 510	2 651
1977	110.6	35 133	9 072	1 764	2 081	423	234	108	17	165	−1 612	1 777
1976 2nd qtr.	109.2	8 793	2 346	400	468	−12	−66	−20	−45	−281	−909	628
3rd qtr.	109.5	8 879	2 377	414	488	5	−2	14	16	−304	−1 097	793
4th qtr.	111.1	8 928	2 343	422	496	105	73	3	5	−279	−961	682
1977 1st qtr.	110.0	8 758	2 260	419	502	233	125	51	102	−493	−947	454
2nd qtr.	110.7	8 644	2 293	433	508	228	164	39	−5	−365	−764	399
3rd qtr.	110.9	8 831	2 265	456	530	−31	−31	5	−44	537	54	483
4th qtr.	110.8	8 900	2 254	457	541	−7	−25	13	−36	486	45	441
1978 1st qtr.		9 070 pe		443 p	544 p		67 p	46 p	61 p	−305	−574	269
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	+0.5	+2.8	−0.7	+1.2	+4.5							
on a year earlier	+0.5	+1.6	−4.3	+7.0	+8.7							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and earnings					Labour (UK)			Visible trade (volume)	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales	Average gross earnings of all employees (GB, all industries and services covered)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Export	Import
	at 1970 prices		at 1971 prices	monthly averages	(not seasonally adjusted)				(old series)	thousands		thousands	at 1975 prices	
Base of index £m in base year Series in	1970	1970	1971 16,296	thousands	Jan. 1974		1970	1970	Jan. 1970	thousands		thousands	1975 19,462	1975 22,667
1971	100.1	99.4	100.0	108.5	80.0	9.4	104.6	109.0	118.7	775.8	3.4	130.9	84.6	83.3
1972	102.3	102.0	105.3	138.6	85.7	7.1	109.2	114.8	134.0	854.9	3.7	147.3	84.5	92.4
1973	110.0	110.5	110.3	137.1	93.5	9.1	144.5	123.2	152.1	611.0	2.6	307.0	96.8	105.6
1974	106.3	108.9	109.0	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	179.1	599.7'	2.6'	302.7'	103.9	107.9
1975	100.6	102.2	106.7	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.4	188.7	226.6	929.0	3.9	150.0'	100.0	100.0
1976	101.3	103.2	106.5	104.7	157.1	16.5	299.0	219.6	261.9	1 269.8'	5.4'	120.4'	109.9	105.5
1977	102.5	103.8	103.6	107.1	182.0	15.8	340.1	261.7	288.5	1 378.1	5.8	155.6'	118.9	107.0
1977 1st qtr.	103.2	105.3	103.3	104	174.1	16.5	341.5	248.0	280.0	1 329.5	5.6	..	115.7	109.1
2nd qtr.	101.9	102.9	102.5	103	181.9	17.4	347.7	259.2	285.3	1 340.6	5.6	157.7	118.0	109.8
3rd qtr.	102.7	103.7	104.3	112	184.7	16.5	340.5	267.7	288.3	1 414.6	5.9	151.9	124.1	106.4
4th qtr.	102.2	103.2	104.4	110	187.4	13.1	330.6	272.1	300.4	1 427.8	6.0	160.1	117.9	102.6
1978 1st qtr.	103.2	104.1	106.3	129	190.6	9.5	326.7	279.0	310.8	1 409.4	5.9	187.7	120.3	114.3
2nd qtr.										1 372.7 p	5.7 p	210.3 p		
July	102.8	104.2	104.8	113	183.8	17.6	344.5	265.8	286.3	1 398 5	5.9	155.2	123.1	110.4
Aug.	102.7	103.3	104.7	116	184.7	16.5	338.8	268.1	287.7	1 410.3	5.9	153.4	123.4	101.3
Sept.	102.6	103.5	103.5	107	185.7	15.6	338.1	269.2	291.0	1 434.9	6.0	147.2	125.9	107.5
Oct.	102.0	103.0	102.7	116	186.5	14.1	333.8	271.0	295.8	1 431.5	6.0	156.0	119.4	101.3
Nov.	101.9	102.6	103.1	108	187.4	13.0	329.9	272.0	300.5	1 429.6	6.0	159.4	115.3	98.4
Dec.	102.8	104.0	106.9	104	188.4	12.1	328.0	273.3	304.8	1 422.3	6.0	165.0	118.9	108.1
1978 Jan.	102.9	103.7	104.9	125	189.5	9.9	324.9	277.1	306.3	1 419.2	5.9	180.3	112.2	114.6
Feb.	103.5	104.0	106.8	120	190.6	9.5	324.2	279.2	311.2	1 409.0	5.9	187.0	127.4	111.3
Mar.	103.2	104.5	107.0	142	191.8	9.1	331.0	280.6	314.8	1 400.0	5.9	195.8	121.4	116.9
Apr.	104.8 p	105.5 p	106.7	132	194.6	7.9	337.5 p	282.8 p	326.1 p	1 387.1	5.8	203.7	126.1	103.0
May			109 p		195.7	7.7	341.8 p	284.4 p		1 366.4	5.7	209.9	120.1 p	112.5
June										1 364.6 p	5.7 p	217.4 p		
% change latest 3 months														
on prev. 3 months	+1.3	+1.2	+1.2	+16.9	+2.4		+3.4	+2.2	+4.4	−2.6		+12.1	+2½	−½
on a year earlier	+1.0	−0.1	+5.1	+22.0	+8.2		−3.3	+10.7	+12.6	+2.4		+33.4	+5½	+3½

p Provisional pe Preliminary e Estimate .. Not available ' Average of available months

Inquiries: 01-215 3453

Engineering sales and orders up to March

SIC orders VII, VIII and IX

Provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume indices of engineering sales and orders up to March show a small continuing improvement in the receipt of new orders, but the rate of increase was slower than that recorded last month. A somewhat greater increase in sales took them to a level similar to the inflow of orders, so order books were unchanged.

On the home market the rising trend of new orders (net of cancellations) since mid-1977 appears to have faltered in the first quarter of this year, with the provisional estimate of trend in March only marginally higher than the level in December. The volume of domestic sales turned up somewhat later than that of new orders, and increased by 3½ per cent between December and March; however, it seems unlikely that this recovery will be sustained unless there is a stronger intake of orders to fill the order book. The volume of home orders-on-hand has as yet made no lasting improvement from the extended trough it entered at the beginning of 1977.

As opposed to the slackening in growth of new home orders, the increase in the trend of new export orders during the first quarter was 4½ per cent. However, this was partly influenced by the coincidental arrival of a few large contracts in February, while the seasonally adjusted figures for January and March were well down on the average intake achieved last year. The trend of export sales rose by 2 per cent in the first quarter, starting to recover from the dip at the end of 1977. There is a moderately high level of export orders-on-hand to support future sales, export order books having continued at a fairly high volume after the large inflow of export orders in 1976 and early 1977. Since then there had been little further change until the high order intake in the first quarter produced an increase of ½–1 per cent.

The overall effect of home and export markets produced increases of 2 per cent in the volume of total new orders and 3 per cent in sales during the first quarter, while total orders-on-hand were unchanged from their level at the end of last year.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the monthly engineering inquiry relating to March 1978. The response rate of 76 per cent to the inquiry for March, is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for December 1977, January and February 1978 response rates for these months were 92, 90 and 89 per cent respectively.

An expanded commentary, together with additional tables, is given in Business Monitor

Notes to table

[1] This ratio shows the number of months work in the order book in the base year at the then average rate of sales. [2] For orders-on-hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point. p Provisional.

Volume index numbers for the combined engineering industries up to March

	Total			Home			Export		
	1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100		1970 average = 100	1970 average monthly sales = 100	
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New orders	Sales
Ratio: orders-on-hand/av. monthly sales in 1970 [1]	6.7			6.3			7.6		
Trend estimates									
1976 p									
January	95	92	105	89	87	99	110	105	121
February	94	93	105	87	88	99	108	107	122
March	92	94	105	85	89	99	107	109	122
April	91	95	105	84	90	99	105	111	122
May	89	97	106	83	90	100	104	114	121
June	88	99	105	81	92	100	105	120	120
July	88	103	105	80	93	100	106	128	120
August	88	105	105	79	94	99	108	135	120
September	88	107	105	79	95	99	110	139	121
October	89	108	106	78	96	100	112	141	122
November	89	109	106	78	98	100	115	139	123
December	90	109	107	78	98	101	116	137	124
1977 p									
January	90	109	107	77	99	100	118	135	124
February	90	108	107	77	99	100	119	134	124
March	90	107	107	77	98	100	120	132	125
April	90	107	106	76	97	99	121	132	126
May	90	106	106	76	96	98	121	132	128
June	90	105	106	76	96	97	121	131	130
July	90	105	106	76	96	97	121	130	131
August	90	105	106	76	96	97	121	127	131
September	90	105	105	76	97	96	120	125	129
October	90	106	105	76	99	97	120	125	128
November	90	107	105	76	100	97	120	126	127
December	90	108	106	77	100	99	120	128	126
1978 p									
January	90	109	107	77	101	100	120	130	127
February	90	109	108	77	101	101	121	131	128
March	91	110	109	77	101	102	121	134	129
Percentage change [2] Dec 1977-March 1978	+0.5	+2.0	+3.0	+0.5	+0.5	+3.5	+1.0	+4.5	+2.0
Seasonally adjusted									
1970	99	100	100	99	100	100	99	101	100
1971	90	94	99	92	96	99	84	90	100
1972	96	104	100	100	107	103	89	96	92
1973	127	129	111	127	129	114	128	128	103
1974	128	115	115	122	110	113	142	128	119
1975	97	93	110	90	89	106	112	103	121
1976 p	89	101	105	77	92	99	117	124	121
1977 p	90	107	106	77	98	98	121	130	127
1976 p									
1st qtr	92	94	104	86	88	98	108	110	122
2nd	88	96	106	81	91	101	102	107	121
3rd	88	106	105	79	95	100	108	135	120
4th	89	109	105	77	95	99	117	144	123
1977 p									
1st qtr	90	109	108	77	101	101	120	131	124
2nd	90	106	106	75	95	98	122	134	129
3rd	89	106	107	76	97	97	120	129	132
4th	90	107	104	77	100	97	121	124	124
1978 p									
1st qtr	90	109	109	76	100	102	121	132	130
1976 p									
January	95	96	107	89	92	100	110	106	124
February	94	96	103	88	89	97	110	117	120
March	92	91	103	86	85	96	108	106	121
April	91	95	108	84	91	102	105	105	123
May	89	98	112	82	93	106	103	111	128
June	88	94	100	81	89	95	102	107	113
July	88	108	104	80	92	98	107	153	120
August	88	105	106	79	95	100	109	132	120
September	88	103	106	79	97	101	108	118	121
October	89	113	107	78	97	101	112	158	125
November	90	112	104	78	97	98	116	151	123
December	89	100	104	77	91	98	117	125	120
1977 p									
January	90	112	111	77	105	104	117	131	129
February	90	112	108	77	103	102	118	133	123
March	90	103	104	77	94	98	120	129	120
April	90	110	108	77	98	100	121	140	129
May	91	107	104	76	95	96	123	138	126
June	90	100	107	75	91	98	122	124	131
July	89	105	108	76	100	99	120	118	133
August	90	110	105	76	98	96	121	141	129
September	89	103	107	76	94	97	120	128	134
October	90	107	106	76	99	97	120	129	129
November	89	100	101	76	97	94	118	106	121
December	90	113	105	77	104	99	121	138	121
1978 p									
January, p	90	106	110	77	104	102	118	112	131
February	91	118	108	77	99	100	123	167	130
March	90	103	110	76	98	103	121	115	130
Oct-Dec 1977 (av.)	90	107	104	77	100	97	121	124	124
Jan-March 1978 (av.)	90	109	109	76	100	102	121	132	130
Percentage change [2]	−0.5	+2.0	+5.0	−1.0	–	+5.0	+0.5	+6.0	+5.5

PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders), obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £4.32 per annum. Separate commentaries and volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering (SIC orders VII, VIII and IX respectively).

Inquiries: Department of Industry, Room 618, Dean Bradley House, 52 Horseferry Road, London SW1P 2AG, tel. 01-212 5770.

Footwear industry: orders, deliveries and stocks in March

In the three months ended March 1978 deliveries in the footwear industry were estimated to be 10 per cent lower on a seasonally adjusted pairage basis than in the three months ended December 1977. Net new orders were 29 per cent higher than in the previous three months, while at the end of March orders-on-hand were 32 per cent higher on the December 1977 level. The index of output in the three months ended March 1978 was 10 per cent lower than in the three months ended December 1977.

A detailed breakdown of manufacturer's deliveries by type of footwear in pairage and value terms, together with figures of exports, imports, consumers' expenditure, prices and employment is published in the Business Monitor production series under the reference PO 450.

The index of output is calculated from the value of total sales and work done by firms classified to the footwear industry (minimum list heading 450 of the standard industrial classification). In using the index numbers it should be borne in mind that when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant price value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years.

The data on pairage and value relate to complete footwear only sold by manufacturers classified to MLH 450 and to other industries (eg rubber) in the SIC, employing 25 or more persons.

Inquiries: 01-212 6787.

Index of output: orders on hand, net new orders, deliveries and stocks of complete footwear

Monthly averages or monthly totals

	Index of output 1970 = 100	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders			Deliveries			Stocks (end period)
		Million pairs	£m	Million pairs		£m	Million pairs		£m	Million pairs
1966		33.6					16.4			
1967		37.8		16.5			16.1			
1968	113	41.6		17.3			17.0			
1969	108	34.6		15.9			16.5			
1970	100	38.9		16.6			16.2			
1971	108	32.5	55.7	15.7			16.2		23.8	19.4
1972	104	29.5	59.6	15.2		24.8	15.4		24.5	18.5
1973	108	46.2	85.2	17.1		30.5	15.7		28.4	16.5
1974	107	44.3	79.5	14.3		30.9	14.4		31.3	18.0
1975	101	38.8	91.8	13.2		36.2	13.7		35.1	15.8
1976	101	46.8	132.9	13.8		42.8	13.1		39.4	14.4
1977	107	44.8	141.9	13.3		49.3	13.4		48.5	16.0
	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Actual
1976 1st quarter	100	42.6	89.2	14.6	13.9	38.9	13.3	13.0	39.8	19.0
2nd	100	46.3	107.5	12.8	12.5	40.4	11.5	12.4	34.3	20.9
3rd	99	36.9	89.7	10.0	12.1	34.7	13.2	12.8	40.7	17.2
4th	104	46.8	132.9	17.6	16.5	57.3	14.3	14.0	42.9	14.4
1977 1st quarter	106	57.6	140.9	17.4	17.1	51.7	13.8	13.6	49.0	14.7
2nd	107	57.4	154.2	12.7	11.9	48.2	12.8	13.7	43.7	17.2
3rd p	105	47.5	110.3	10.0	12.4	35.0	13.3	13.1	49.6	14.1
4th p	109	44.8	141.9	13.0	13.3	62.1	13.9	13.7	51.6	16.0
1978 1st quarter p	98	59.2	153.4	17.5	17.1	56.5	12.7	12.3	52.6	17.2
1976 January	103	38.9	88.2	13.2	15.5	33.9	13.1	13.7	37.6	
February	100	40.0	89.3	14.1	13.3	40.3	12.9	12.8	39.2	
March	96	42.6	89.2	16.5	12.9	42.5	13.9	12.4	42.6	
April	100	43.2	94.4	12.2	9.5	39.7	11.6	12.2	34.5	
May	100	48.0	108.4	15.9	14.8	47.0	11.1	12.5	33.0	
June	99	46.3	107.5	10.2	13.2	34.4	11.8	12.4	35.3	
July	96	40.8	90.7	6.3	11.3	20.2	11.8	12.4	37.0	
August	98	38.1	87.9	8.8	11.7	33.7	11.4	12.3	36.6	
September	104	36.9	89.7	15.1	13.4	50.3	16.2	13.9	48.5	
October	103	44.9	111.7	23.6	18.2	67.6	15.6	13.8	45.7	
November	101	45.9	126.0	15.6	13.1	59.1	14.6	13.2	44.8	
December	108	46.8	132.9	13.6	18.2	45.0	12.6	15.0	38.1	
1977 January	102	51.8	133.8	16.8	20.9	42.7	11.9	12.9	41.8	
February	107	54.2	136.9	16.4	15.5	52.6	14.0	13.8	49.5	
March	108	57.6	140.9	19.1	14.9	59.7	15.6	13.9	55.7	
April	104	60.4	153.5	14.8	12.0	53.0	12.0	13.2	40.3	
May	111	62.6	164.0	15.8	14.1	56.4	13.7	14.7	45.9	
June	106	57.4	154.2	7.5	9.8	35.2	12.7	13.2	45.0	
July p	99	53.7	135.4	8.0	15.2	23.5	11.7	12.9	42.2	
August	108	47.2	123.7	6.5	8.2	36.5	13.0	13.3	48.2	
September	107	47.5	110.3	15.7	13.8	45.2	15.4	13.1	58.6	
October p	110	44.7	128.5	12.5	9.6	74.6	15.3	13.6	56.5	
November p	108	41.4	134.5	11.6	9.7	61.6	14.9	13.4	55.6	
December p	110	44.8	141.9	14.7	20.6	50.1	11.4	14.1	42.7	
1978 January p	95	53.1	137.6	20.1	23.8	43.6	11.8	12.2	47.8	
February p	97	54.2	139.2	13.6	12.9	54.0	12.5	12.4	52.4	
March p	103	59.2	153.4	18.7	14.6	71.8	13.7	12.2[1]	57.6	

p Provisional.

[1] Based on early returns, seasonally adjusted deliveries in April are expected to be 13½ million pairs.

New companies in May

Details are given in the tables of new companies registered in Great Britain during May 1978 showing nominal capital. The figures are exclusive of unlimited companies and companies limited by guarantee.

Nominal capital	Total	public companies	Private companies
Not exceeding £100	3 762	—	3 762
Over £100 but under £1 000	51	—	51
£1 000 but under £10 000	1 291	—	1 291
£10 000 but under £50 000	585	1	584
£50 000 but under £100 000	116	—	116
£100 000 but under £1 000 000	117	—	117
£1 000 000 and over	17	—	17
Total number	5 939	—	5 938
	£ thous	£ thous	£ thous
Total amount of nominal capital	59 998	40	59 958

Companies registered in Great Britain in 1977 and 1978

	1977		1978	
	Number	nominal capital £ thous	Number	Nominal capital £ thous
January	3 225	30 825	4 555	31 447
February	4 330	34 505	4 316	38 325
March	5 843	49 266	6 024	52 299
April	5 499	41 860	5 031	47 396
May	4 097	27 086	5 939	59 998
June	4 169	61 951		
July	4 172	34 238		
August	4 242	42 331		
September	4 527	51 261		
October	4 404	37 741		
November	5 007	33 987		
December	5 005	30 739		
Total	54 520	474 790		

Inquiries: Cardiff (2220) 388588 ext. 2226.

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Made-up clothing: orders and deliveries in February

In the three months ended February 1978 deliveries by the clothing industry were provisionally estimated to have been 8 per cent higher than in the preceding three months while net new orders were 15 per cent higher. Orders-on-hand at the end of February 1978 were 3 per cent higher than the end-November 1977 level. (These comparisons are based on the seasonally adjusted series in the accompanying tables.)

In using the index numbers shown in the table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with constructing a constant value series become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent years.

Inquiries: 01-212 0116.

Made-up clothing

Index numbers of total orders and deliveries

	Orders-on-hand (end period)		Net new orders		Deliveries	
	December 1969 = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100		Average 1970 Deliveries = 100	
	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted	Actual	Seasonally adjusted
1968	107		100		97	
1969	100		97		97	
1970	103		102		100	
1971	119		108		104	
1972	125		110		109	
1973	155		123		117	
1974	145		115		114	
1975	142		118		115	
1976	135		118		114	
1977 p	139		124		121	
1976						
1st qtr	126	132	109	111	113	114
2nd	148	135	126	116	107	109
3rd	134	145	108	128	121	120
4th	135	134	129	117	118	114
1977						
1st qtr	145	151	127	130	122	124
2nd	154	140	123	116	115	120
3rd p	131	141	113	135	121	121
4th p	139	138	132	125	124	122
1976						
Jan	129	134	94	112	102	122
Feb	128	135	115	112	116	112
Mar	126	132	117	110	119	109
Apr	132	129	128	118	105	107
May	151	133	149	123	111	117
Jun	148	135	101	108	103	104
Jul	147	145	102	139	117	121
Aug	136	143	88	118	108	119
Sep	134	145	135	128	136	121
Oct	132	137	151	115	133	113
Nov	138	135	141	116	123	114
Dec	135	134	94	120	99	115
1977						
Jan	143	148	113	135	108	129
Feb	139	147	127	123	129	124
Mar	145	151	140	131	129	119
Apr	153	150	133	123	115	118
May	161	143	136	107	116	117
Jun	154	140	101	119	113	125
Jul	139	137	110	150	122	126
Aug	132	139	95	128	108	119
Sep	131	141	133	126	133	118
Oct p	130	135	145	111	142	120
Nov p	136	133	136	111	125	116
Dec p	139	138	114	153	107	131
1978						
Jan p	133	138	103	123	107	128
Feb p	130	137	126	123	129	123

p Provisional.

Cotton industry: production in March

Statistics issued by the Textile Statistics Bureau show that in January-March 1978 the amount of cloth woven was 8 per cent lower than in January-March 1977. Production of single yarn decreased by 17 per cent and doubled yarn decreased by 21 per cent.

Inquiries: 01-212 0017 or 01-212 6474.

Guide to government statistics

See centre pages
Trade and Industry
13 January 1978

Index of retail prices for May

The index of retail prices for all items for 16 May, was 195.7 (15 January, 1974 = 100). This represents an increase of 0.6 per cent on April 1978 (194.6) and of 7.7 per cent on May 1977 (181.7).

The rise in the index in May was due to increases in the prices of meat and some other foods; to increases in motoring costs and electricity charges; and to a number of small increases spread over a wide range of household expenditure.

The movements for the main groups of the index are shown in table 2.

Inquiries: Watford 28500 ext. 630.

Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

	Single yarn [1]		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
	Cotton yarn [2]	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
	million kg				million m	
1968	171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969	166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970	158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971	133.0	83.3		85.0	559.1	479.8
1972	121.4	81.7		75.4	513.0	469.8
1973	115.4	92.5		82.1	453.2	502.3
1974	101.3	87.7		74.7	409.5	505.3
1975	94.4	76.4		68.4	405.4	503.0
1976	106.9	76.1		69.4	374.5	492.9
1977	98.1	77.6		69.8	368.3	497.5
1977						
Jan	2.2	1.7		1.5	7.7	10.3
Feb	2.3	1.7		1.6	7.9	10.7
Mar [3]	2.2	1.8		1.6	7.9	10.7
Apr	1.7	1.4		1.2	6.3	8.8
May	2.3	1.9		1.6	7.9	11.1
June [3]	1.5	1.2		1.1	6.9	8.8
July	1.6	1.2		1.2	4.3	7.5
August [3]	1.9	1.5		1.4	7.6	9.5
Sep	1.5	1.2		1.2	6.3	9.0
Oct	2.0	1.6		1.4	7.9	10.5
Nov [3]	2.0	1.6		1.4	7.8	10.2
Dec	1.4	1.1		1.0	5.9	7.6
1978						
Jan	2.0	1.5		1.3	7.7	10.0
Feb	2.0	1.6		1.3	8.0	10.0
Mar [3]	1.6	1.2		1.1	6.8	8.2

[1] Spun in cotton industry. [2] Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. [3] Average of five weeks.

Table 2 Index of retail prices: commodity breakdown

	Indices (15 Jan 1974 = 100)		Percentage change over the month
	18 Apr 1978	16 May 1978	
All items	194.6	195.7	+0.6
All items excluding food	192.7	193.6	+0.5
Food	201.6	203.2	+0.8
Seasonal food	186.3	187.5	+0.6
Other food	204.7	206.3	+0.8
Alcholic drink	196.6	196.6	+0.0
Tobacco	224.2	224.2	+0.0
Housing	170.6	171.0	+0.2
Fuel and light	223.6	226.4	+1.3
Durable household goods	180.1	181.0	+0.5
Clothing and footwear	169.1	169.8	+0.4
Transport and vehicles	203.3	204.8	+0.7
Miscellaneous goods	203.4	204.7	+0.6
Services	190.1	190.7	+0.3
Meals out	203.9	205.4	+0.7

Table 1 Index of retail prices

	All items				All items except seasonal foods		
	Index 15 Jan 1974 = 100	Percentage change over			Index 15 Jan 1974 = 100	Percentage change over	
		1 month	6 months	12 months		1 month	6 months
1977							
December	188.4	+0.5	+2.6	+12.1	189.0	+0.4	+3.6
1978							
January	189.5	+0.6	+3.1	+9.9	190.2	+0.6	+3.7
February	190.6	+0.6	+3.2	+9.5	191.4	+0.6	+3.5
March	191.8	+0.6	+3.3	+9.1	192.4	+0.5	+3.3
April	194.6	+1.5	+4.3	+7.9	195.0	+1.4	+4.1
May	195.7	+0.6	+4.4	+7.7	196.1	+0.6	+4.2

Nationality of vessels in United Kingdom seaborne trade: 1977

In terms of weight, 99.3 per cent of goods imported into the UK were carried by sea in 1977. The corresponding figure for exports was 98.0 per cent. The nationality of vessels (ie flags) carrying this trade varied from traditional maritime nations, including the UK and Norway, to many of the developing countries such as India – and from our European partners, principally the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands, to flags of convenience such as Liberia and Panama.

Not all ships are engaged in the same type of trade, and the types of cargo carried by the world's shipping industry can roughly be divided into tanker cargoes, dry bulk cargoes, and general cargoes referred to in this article as 'other dry'. Short descriptions of these types of cargoes will be found below in each relevant section.

Seaborne trade to and from the United Kingdom, measured in terms of tonne-miles, decreased by 15 per cent in 1977. In terms of weight, however, there was a decrease of only 3 per cent. This is explained by the decrease in imports of crude petroleum, only partially offset by the increase in exports of tanker cargo which, on average, are not carried so far.

Tanker cargoes

Tanker cargoes are those which are carried in bulk liquid form. Examples of these are crude petroleum (which is by far the largest), petroleum products, and other minor cargoes such as molasses and sulphuric acid.

Imports. Tanker imports in 1977 accounted for 69 per cent of UK imports by sea in terms of tonne-miles, but only 17 per cent by value. There was a further decline in the weight of tanker cargoes imported by sea of 18 per cent due to the increased production of crude petroleum from the North Sea and the consequent fall in imports.

The UK flag share increased to a record 32 per cent by weight in 1977. The other principal carriers of tanker cargoes to the UK are Liberia and Norway with 22 per cent and 9 per cent, respectively.

Exports. Tanker export cargoes, by weight, increased by 53 per cent in 1977 because of the rise in exports of crude petroleum and its products. The UK flag share decreased from 43 per cent in 1976 to 34 per cent in 1977, although in 1977 this was actually more cargo. Liberia with 13 per cent and Norway, 8 per cent, are again the other principal carriers.

Dry bulk cargoes

The distinction between dry bulk cargoes and other dry is not easy to make and this is actually done by classifying certain commodities as being 'bulk'. Only the principal dry bulk commodities are distinguished, examples of these are raw sugar, coniferous lumber, fertilisers, iron ore, non-ferrous ores and coal.

Imports. Iron ore and unmilled cereals between them account for over 50 per cent of all dry bulk cargo imports; the others being, principally, crude fertilisers and coniferous

Table 1 **United Kingdom seaborne trade 1968-77**

Total (imports and exports combined) — Percentage carried by UK registered ships

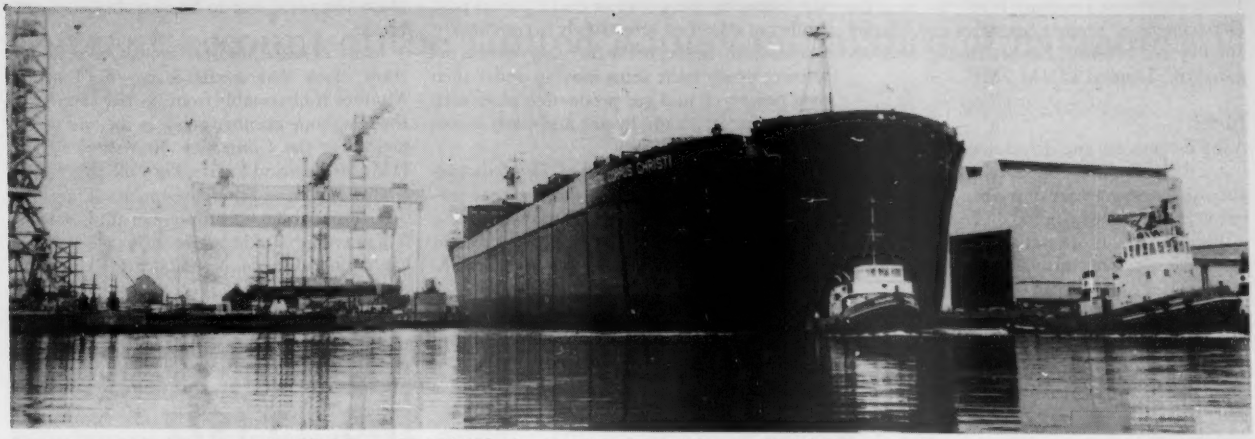
	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
by tonne-miles	thousand million tonne-miles										percentage of tonne-miles									
Dry cargo	308	315	330	358	347	358	331	317	325	322	58	55	51	52	48	41	40	41	35	35
Bulk	127	135	152	175	165	160	176	170	172	166	48	46	41	48	44	34	32	36	28	32
Other	181	180	178	183	181	198	155	147	152	156	65	62	60	56	49	47	48	46	42	39
Tanker cargo	638	784	845	939	938	1 064	1 069	818	685	533	23	29	31	30	28	29	29	29	32	30
All cargo	946	1 099	1 175	1 296	1 284	1 422	1 400	1 134	1 009	855	33	36	37	37	33	33	31	32	33	32
by weight	weight: million tonnes										percentage of weight									
Dry cargo	98	103	107	108	110	122	121	109	116	117	43	43	41	42	40	37	37	38	37	37
Bulk	51	54	57	56	56	62	70	62	66	65	44	41	41	43	41	36	34	37	35	36
Other	48	49	50	52	54	60	51	47	50	52	43	43	42	40	38	38	40	40	40	39
Tanker cargo	121	131	143	148	147	155	146	119	120	112	26	30	30	30	27	30	28	31	33	33
All cargo	220	234	250	256	257	277	268	228	237	229	34	36	34	34	33	33	32	34	35	35
by value	value: £ million										percentage by value									
Dry cargo	10 539	11 413	12 754	14 018	15 209	20 222	27 145	30 292	38 910	47 267	53	52	49	48	48	46	47	47	46	45
Bulk	982	1 012	1 134	1 150	1 195	1 677	3 095	3 204	3 858	4 187	34	32	30	31	30	27	28	31	29	30
Other	9 558	10 401	11 621	12 868	14 015	18 546	24 050	27 087	35 060	43 080	55	54	51	50	49	48	49	49	48	47
Tanker cargo	1 041	1 041	1 102	1 393	1 376	2 007	5 450	4 998	6 660	7 042	29	32	31	30	29	30	29	32	33	33
All cargo	11 580	12 454	13 856	15 411	16 585	22 231	32 596	35 290	45 569	54 309	50	50	48	46	46	45	44	45	44	44

Table 2 **Importance in UK trade of the main individual flags 1975–77**

percentages

	All cargo						Dry cargo						Tanker cargo					
	Weight			Value			Weight			Value			Weight			Value		
Flag	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977
Imports																		
United Kingdom	31.2	31.6	32.9	40.0	41.2	41.9	34.6	32.8	33.9	42.9	44.0	44.1	28.8	30.7	31.9	29.2	31.0	31.7
Liberia	18.9	17.1	14.8	6.5	5.8	4.6	9.9	10.8	7.2	1.6	1.6	1.3	25.2	22.1	21.9	24.2	21.0	20.8
Norway	10.3	9.1	9.2	6.2	5.1	4.7	10.0	11.2	9.8	5.0	4.4	3.8	10.6	7.5	8.7	10.4	7.8	9.1
Germany (Federal Republic)	5.8	6.4	6.5	10.6	10.2	10.3	10.3	9.8	10.3	12.8	12.0	11.7	2.6	3.6	3.0	2.9	3.8	3.3
Netherlands	5.4	5.6	4.5	6.0	6.1	5.4	6.4	6.1	5.9	6.3	6.2	5.7	4.7	5.3	3.0	5.1	5.7	3.7
Greece	4.3	4.6	5.2	2.1	2.2	2.1	3.4	5.4	6.5	1.4	1.8	1.7	4.9	3.9	4.1	4.9	3.8	3.7
Other EEC [1]	7.6	8.6	8.0	10.5	11.0	11.6	7.0	6.7	7.1	11.1	11.3	12.2	8.1	9.9	8.9	7.8	9.7	8.7
All other flags	16.5	17.0	18.9	18.1	18.4	19.4	18.4	17.2	19.3	18.9	18.7	19.5	15.1	17.0	18.5	15.5	17.2	19.0
Exports																		
United Kingdom	45.9	45.1	40.0	51.5	48.8	46.0	45.1	46.1	44.2	51.6	49.1	46.7	47.9	43.1	34.4	49.6	44.0	36.4
Germany (Federal Republic)	9.3	8.4	8.8	8.6	9.0	9.6	12.5	11.5	12.0	8.9	9.3	9.9	1.8	2.7	4.6	2.7	3.7	5.6
Netherlands	6.9	5.9	4.9	5.2	5.5	5.4	8.5	7.9	7.4	5.3	5.7	5.7	3.0	2.3	1.6	3.2	2.5	1.8
Norway	5.3	6.0	7.0	3.5	3.1	3.2	5.6	5.6	5.9	3.4	2.9	2.8	4.7	6.7	8.5	4.5	6.3	8.2
Greece	3.6	6.0	4.9	1.5	2.6	2.5	1.8	2.4	3.4	1.2	2.1	2.1	7.8	12.5	6.9	6.9	11.3	6.6
Denmark	3.3	3.5	2.8	2.7	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7	3.6	2.7	3.4	3.7	2.3	3.3	1.8	2.5	3.5	1.9
Other EEC [2]	6.1	5.8	8.6	6.0	7.3	8.7	5.2	5.3	5.5	5.8	7.5	8.4	8.5	7.1	12.7	6.7	6.0	11.7
All other flags	19.6	19.3	23.0	21.0	20.3	21.0	17.6	17.5	18.0	21.1	20.0	20.7	24.0	22.3	29.5	23.9	22.7	27.8

[1] Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Republic of Ireland and Denmark. [2] Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Italy and Republic of Ireland.



Largest vessel built in the United Kingdom – the 333 000 tdw oil tanker *Coastal Corpus Christi*, constructed recently by Harland and Wolff, Belfast, for Coastal States Gas Corporation of Houston, Texas.

lumber. There was a 16 per cent decrease in the weight of iron ore imported in 1977 following a 17 per cent increase in 1976; seaborne imports of unmilled cereals showed a 7 per cent increase. Overall, seaborne imports of dry bulk cargoes fell by 8 per cent in weight terms. The UK flag share increased from 30 per cent in 1976 to 32 per cent in 1977. Norway with 12 per cent, Liberia (11 per cent) and Greece (9 per cent) were the other principal carriers of dry bulk cargoes.

The average length of haul of dry bulk cargoes increased slightly from 3014 nautical miles in 1976 to 3057 in 1977. For UK flag vessels the comparable figures were 2800 in 1976 and 3088 in 1977.

Exports. The export of dry bulk cargo, which only accounts for 24 per cent of UK exports by weight and 2 per cent by value, increased by 17 per cent in 1977. The UK flag share, however, declined slightly from a record 52 per cent in 1976 to 49 per cent in 1977. The principal exported dry bulk cargoes are crude fertilisers and coal; these are sent mainly to the EEC and Scandinavia and together these two commodities account for 74 per cent of the total. The average length of haul of dry bulk cargo exports was 1156 nautical miles in 1977, the UK flag figure being 689. The difference between these figures and the comparable ones for imports reflects the completely different patterns of dry bulk cargo trade.

Other dry cargoes

Other dry cargoes are all those not included as tanker or dry bulk cargoes. They therefore include food and drink, semi-manufactured and manufactured goods.

Imports. The weight of other dry cargo imported by sea remained almost constant in 1977, but in terms of tonne-miles fell by 3 per cent. This was due to a slight rise in dry cargo imports from the EEC and a small fall in the deep sea trades. The UK flag share in weight terms also stayed constant at 38 per cent, but in tonne-miles it decreased from 41 to 39 per cent. The Federal Republic of Germany with 14 per cent and the Netherlands with 7 per cent are the most important foreign flag carriers of other dry imports.

Exports. Seaborne exports of other dry cargo increased by 8 per cent in terms of both weight and tonne-miles and by 22 per cent in terms of value. The UK flag share declined in weight terms from 42 to 40 per cent and in tonne-mile terms from 44 to 39 per cent. As with imports, the Federal Republic of Germany (11 per cent) and the Netherlands (8 per cent) are the principal foreign flags involved in carrying dry cargo exports.

Graph 1 shows the UK flag share combined for imports and exports in terms of weight, tonne-miles and value. It is significant to note the almost constant figure in terms of weight and the continuing decline in terms of tonne-miles.

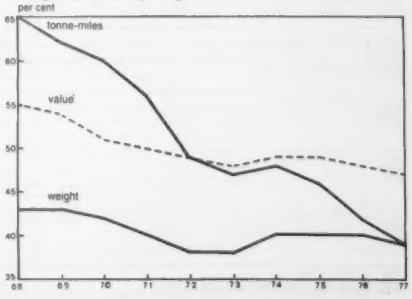
Trade carried by flag

The proportion by weight and value of UK seaborne imports and exports carried by the flags whose share is significant are shown in tables 2 and 2a. Among the principal world fleets only Japan's carrying is not sufficiently large to be separately identified. The bar chart shows separately for imports and exports, by weight and value, the UK flag share of UK seaborne trade with various country group areas.

Business Monitor M8

A full analysis of the seaborne trade of the United Kingdom appears in Business Monitor M8, with the same title as this article. It is published annually and gives a detailed breakdown of UK sea trade by country, flag, average lengths of haul and individual commodity trades. The latest monitor, with 1977 figures will be available in August, and can be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. Copies can also be obtained over the counter at either the Department of Industry's Central Library,

Graph 1 United Kingdom percentage flag share of United Kingdom other dry cargo trade



Graph 2 Flag share percentages of certain country groups in total UK seaborne trade (weight)

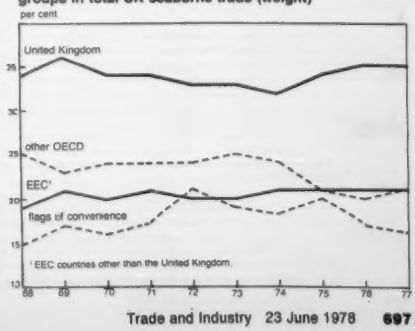


Table 2a Importance in UK trade of the main individual flags 1975-77 percentages

	Other dry cargo						Dry bulk cargo					
	Weight			Value			Weight			Value		
Flag	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977	1975	1976	1977
Imports												
United Kingdom	37.2	38.0	38.0	45.5	47.1	46.6	33.2	30.0	31.5	31.3	29.2	29.9
Liberia	1.4	1.4	1.3	0.5	0.5	0.6	14.7	16.0	10.8	6.3	6.8	4.9
Norway	6.8	5.9	5.5	4.1	3.2	2.9	11.8	14.1	12.4	9.1	9.9	8.8
Germany (Federal Republic)	14.8	13.3	13.5	13.1	12.0	11.4	7.7	7.9	8.4	11.0	12.0	13.1
Netherlands	8.8	8.7	7.4	6.4	6.3	5.7	5.0	4.7	5.0	5.5	5.6	5.9
Greece	1.4	2.4	2.4	0.5	0.7	0.7	4.5	7.0	8.9	5.4	7.1	7.4
Other EEC [1]	11.6	11.0	11.9	12.5	12.5	13.5	4.2	4.3	4.3	5.3	5.4	5.1
All other flags	18.0	19.3	20.0	17.4	17.7	18.6	18.9	16.0	18.7	26.1	24.0	24.9
Exports												
United Kingdom	43.9	42.1	40.4	52.1	49.3	47.0	46.7	52.3	49.5	33.2	34.1	32.0
Germany (Federal Republic)	9.7	10.5	10.8	8.6	9.2	9.7	16.0	13.0	13.7	18.7	16.2	18.9
Netherlands	9.0	8.8	8.4	5.2	5.6	5.6	7.9	6.4	6.0	11.4	9.3	9.3
Norway	5.4	4.4	4.3	3.4	2.9	2.7	5.8	7.3	8.1	5.8	7.3	7.0
Greece	2.0	3.1	3.6	1.2	2.1	2.1	1.7	1.3	3.3	2.9	2.3	2.9
Denmark	3.7	3.9	4.1	2.7	3.4	3.7	3.6	3.2	2.9	5.3	5.2	4.4
Other EEC [2]	4.9	6.5	6.7	5.9	7.5	8.6	5.4	3.5	3.7	4.8	5.2	5.3
All other flags	21.4	20.7	21.7	20.9	20.0	20.6	12.9	13.0	12.8	17.9	20.4	20.2

[1] Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Italy, Republic of Ireland and Denmark. [2] Belgium, Luxembourg, France, Italy and Republic of Ireland.

1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET or at the Department of Trade's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7MU.

Notes

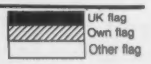
A full list of notes and definitions can be found in the Business Monitor. Dry bulk, other dry and tanker cargoes are described, in detail, in terms of commodities in the Business Monitor.

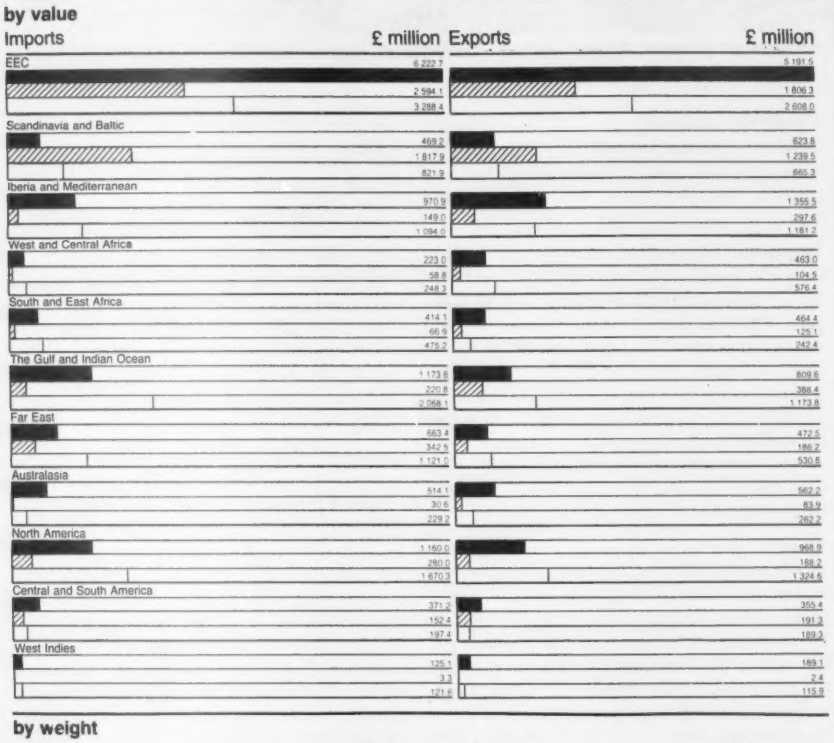
The seaborne trade statistics cover the same field as the overseas trade statistics but exclude the following categories of trade: parcel post; trade not classified accordingly to commodity; trade where the flag of the carrying vessel is not known; newly built ships moving under their own power; oil and gas production platforms; electric energy; trade by air; and trade across the Irish land boundary.

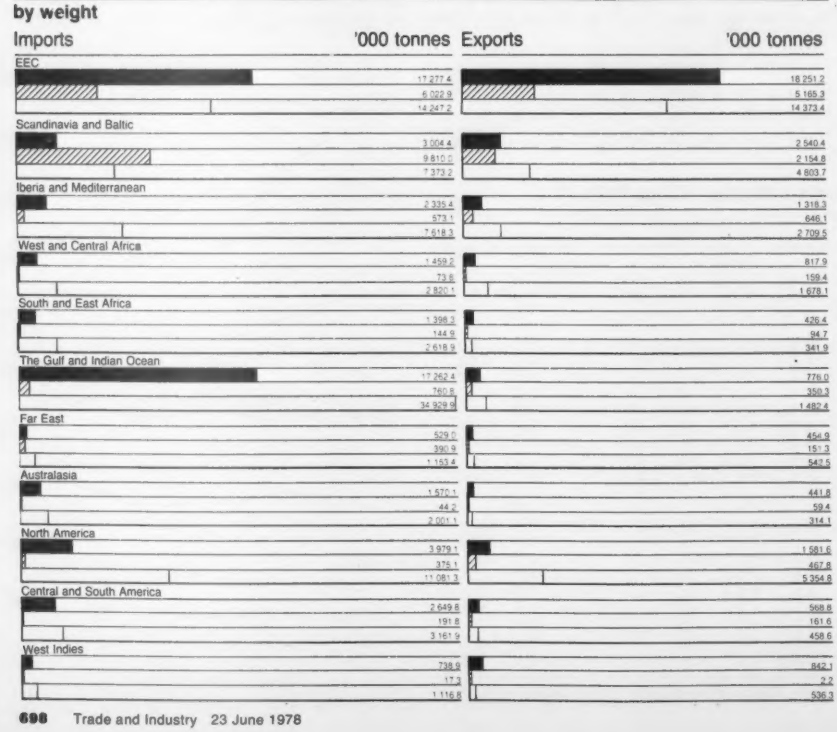
Any measure of the share of UK trade carried by UK ships is not the same as that carried by the UK shipping industry since the latter would include foreign ships chartered in by UK shipping companies and exclude UK ships chartered out to foreign shipping companies.

More detailed information about seaborne trade than that available in the Business Monitor is obtainable from the department at the telephone number given at the end of this article or the Controller, Statistical Office, HM Customs and Excise, Portcullis House, 27 Victoria Avenue, Southend-on-Sea, Essex SS2 6AL, from whom information on all UK trade is also available. Analyses of UK trade by port can be found in the National Ports Council's annual publication, Digest of Port Statistics. **Inquiries:** 01-212 6960.

UK seaborne trade by value, weight, area and flag share: 1977







Regional Statistics No. 13 1977

Regional Statistics No. 13 1977 is an essential reference book for professionals with an interest in regional industry, economics, markets or social characteristics. Compiled by the Central Statistical Office, it provides in one volume a detailed quantitative picture of regional variations within the United Kingdom across a broad range of topics; the subject headings are: Regional profiles (which are a selection of key statistics for each separate region and for counties within it), Social characteristics, Social services, Health, Housing, Education, Employment, Energy, Production, distribution and investment, Agriculture, Transport, Personal incomes, Household expenditure and Regional economic accounts. Notes are given in an appendix explaining the sources and definitions of the figures presented, and providing references to further material on each subject covered.

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From HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

ISBN 0 11 724979 3

Current account of the United Kingdom balance of payments for May

May 1978

The current account for May is estimated to have been in deficit by £49 million, following the surplus of £343 million in April.

The trade figures continue to fluctuate, with a deficit on trade in goods of £169 million in May following the exceptional surplus of £223 million in April. About one quarter of the deterioration reflected adverse movements in the more erratic elements of trade, the remainder being largely accounted for by a worsening in the balance of trade for semi-manufactures (excluding chemicals and precious stones), machinery and road vehicles. In part, these movements reflected the distortions to the trade figures arising from the industrial dispute in Southampton docks (see note 2). Although the effect cannot be allocated to individual commodity groups, it is likely that in total it may have accounted for up to one quarter of the deterioration in the visible trade balance between April and May. Exports were valued at £2,877 million and imports £3,046 million. The balance on invisibles is projected to have been running at a monthly surplus of about £120 million.

Latest three months

In the three months ended May, the current account was in surplus by £105 million, compared with a deficit of £45 million in the previous three months.

In the latest period, visible trade was in deficit by £225 million, compared with a deficit of £371 million in the previous three months. This reflected an improvement of £280 million on the balance of trade in oil. The surplus on invisibles in the latest three months is projected at £330 million.

Current account on balance of payments basis

VISIBLE TRADE (tables 2, 4, 5, 6 and 6a)

May

In May, there was a deficit on visible trade of £169 million, following the exceptionally large surplus of £223 million in April. Exports fell by £123 million, mainly due to lower exports of precious stones. In contrast, imports rose by £269 million from the low April level, reflecting sharp increases in imports of a number of commodities, particularly semi-manufactures (excluding chemicals and precious stones) and road vehicles, generally from low April levels (see note 2).

In terms of volume, exports fell by 5 per cent in May, while imports increased by 9 per cent from the depressed April level. The export unit value index rose by 2 per cent and the import unit value index by 1 per cent, leading to a rise of 1 per cent in the terms of trade index.

Three months ended May

In the three months ended May, there was a visible trade deficit of £225 million, compared with a deficit of £371 million in the previous three months. This improvement owed a great deal to a decrease of £280 million in the deficit on trade in oil, which more than offset

Table 1 Current account

£ million, seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible trade: Visible balance	Visible trade: Exports fob	Visible trade: Imports fob	Invisibles: Balance	Invisibles: Credits	Invisibles: Debits
1977 3rd quarter	+537	+54	8 540	8 486	+483	4 058	3 575
4th quarter	+486	+45	8 204	8 159	+441	4 058	3 617
1978 1st quarter	−305	−574	8 441	9 015	+269	4 173	3 904
1977 December	+71	−76	2 780	2 856	+147 [2]	Monthly figures of credits and debits are not available	
1978 January	−248	−338	2 623	2 961	+90 [2]		
February	+132	+43	2 989	2 946	+89 [2]		
March	−189	−279	2 829	3 108	+90 [2]		
April	+343	+223	3 000	2 777	+120 [1]		
May	−49	−169	2 877	3 046	+120 [1]		
1977 Dec-Feb	−45	−371	8 392	8 763	+326		
Mar-May 1978	+105	−225	8 707	8 932	+330 [1]		

[1] Projections, subject to revision as information becomes available. [2] One third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate; monthly figures of invisibles not available.

Table 2 Current balance, visible trade and invisible trade

Balance of payments basis

£ million seasonally adjusted

	Current balance	Visible trade: Visible balance	Visible trade: Exports fob	Visible trade: Imports fob	Invisible balance
1976	−859	−3 510	25 422	28 932	+2 651
1977	+165	−1 612	32 176	33 788	+1 777
1976 1st quarter	+5	−543	5 655	6 198	+548
2nd quarter	−281	−909	6 171	7 080	+628
3rd quarter	−304	−1 097	6 499	7 596	+793
4th quarter	−279	−961	7 097	8 058	+682
1977 1st quarter	−493	−947	7 502	8 449	+454
2nd quarter	−365	−764	7 930	8 694	+399
3rd quarter	+537	+54	8 540	8 486	+483
4th quarter	+486	+45	8 204	8 159	+441
1978 1st quarter r	−305	−574	8 441	9 015	+269
1977 December	+71	−76	2 780	2 856	+147 [2]
1978 January r	−248	−338	2 623	2 961	+90 [2]
February r	+132	+43	2 989	2 946	+89 [2]
March r	−189	−279	2 829	3 108	+90 [2]
April r	+343	+223	3 000	2 777	+120 [1]
May p	−49	−169	2 877	3 046	+120 [1]
1977 Dec-Feb	−45	−371	8 392	8 763	+326
Mar-May 1978	+105	−225	8 707	8 932	+330
Percentage change [3]			+3½	+2	

[1] Projections, subject to revision as information becomes available. [2] One third of the appropriate calendar quarter's estimate; monthly figures of invisibles are not available. [3] Percentage change: latest three months on previous three months.
p Provisional estimates. r Revised estimates.

Table 3 Invisibles

£ million seasonally adjusted

	Invisibles: Total: Balance	Invisibles: Total: Credits	Invisibles: Total: Debits	Invisibles: of which private sector and public corporations [1]: Balance	Invisibles: of which private sector and public corporations [1]: Credits	Invisibles: of which private sector and public corporations [1]: Debits
1976	+2 651	14 315	11 664	+4 921	13 171	8 250
1977	+1 777	15 801	14 024	+4471	14 402	9 931
1976 1st quarter	+548	3 217	2 669	+1 055	2 944	1 889
2nd quarter	+628	3 431	2 803	+1 174	3 153	1 979
3rd quarter	+793	3 752	2 959	+1 352	3 442	2 090
4th quarter	+682	3 915	3 233	+1 340	3 632	2 292
1977 1st quarter	+454	3 790	3 336	+1 125	3 501	2 376
2nd quarter	+399	3 895	3 496	+1 092	3 594	2 502
3rd quarter	+483	4 058	3 575	+1 172	3 694	2 522
4th quarter	+441	4 058	3 617	+1 082	3 613	2 531
1978 1st quarter	+269	4 173	3 904	+1 134	3 722	2 588
1978 April	+120 [2]	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
May	+120 [2]					

[1] Ie excluding general government transactions and all transfers. [2] See note [1] of table 2. n.a. Not available.

unfavourable trade movements in most other commodity groups. Exports in the three months ended May, at £8,707 million, were 3½ per cent (£315 million) above the level of the previous three months. Export volume shows an increase of 2½ per cent, although the underlying trend is probably only slightly upwards. The value of imports in the latest period was £8,932 million, 2 per cent (£169 million) more than in the previous period. Import volume in the three months to May fell only slightly below the high level of the previous period and remains well above the levels in the second half of last year. Excluding the more erratic factors import volume was 1 per cent below the earlier high level. In the latest three months, the export and import unit value indices both rose by 2 per cent leaving the terms of trade unchanged.

INVISIBLES (table 3)

The latest estimates of invisibles – services, interest, profits and dividends and transfers – relate to the first quarter of 1978 when credits were £4,173 million and debits £3,904 million, giving a surplus of £269 million for the quarter (a monthly average of £90 million). Invisibles of the private sector and public corporations, excluding transfers, were in surplus by £1,134 million in the first quarter (a monthly average of £378 million). The surplus on all invisibles is projected to be running at £120 million a month in the second quarter. This is substantially higher than the estimate for the first quarter primarily because new arrangements for the payment of contributions to the EEC led to an exceptionally heavy net payment in the first quarter of 1978 (see note 3).

Area and commodity analysis of visible trade on an overseas trade statistics basis

EXPORTS

By area (table 7)

In the three months ended May, the value of exports to the developed countries rose by 3½ per cent in comparison with the previous three months. Deliveries to the EEC increased by 6 per cent, while the value of goods dispatched to the Rest of Western Europe fell marginally. Exports to North America were down by 1½ per cent. Shipments to the other developed countries rose by 6 per cent. Exports to the developing countries in aggregate were slightly lower in the three months ended May; shipments to the oil exporting countries continue to show

Table 4 Export and import unit value and volume index numbers

Balance of payments basis — Indices 1975 = 100

	Unit value (Not seasonally adjusted)			Volume (Seasonally adjusted)	
	Exports	Imports	Terms of trade [1]	Exports	Imports
1976	120.6	121.9	98.9	109.9	105.5
1977	142.4	141.4	100.7	118.9	107.0
1976 1st quarter	109.7	109.9	99.8	106.2	100.3
2nd quarter	115.9	118.4	97.9	109.9	106.0
3rd quarter	122.9	124.5	98.7	110.0	108.3
4th quarter	130.2	133.8	97.3	113.5	107.3
1977 1st quarter	136.1	137.5	99.0	115.7	109.1
2nd quarter	141.7	141.3	100.3	118.0	109.8
3rd quarter	145.5	144.0	101.0	124.1	106.4
4th quarter	147.6	144.2	102.4	117.9	102.6
1978 1st quarter r	149.6	142.4	105.1	120.3	114.3
1977 December	148.3	143.8	103.1	118.9	108.1
1978 January r	149.5	141.7	105.5	112.2	114.6
February r	149.2	142.3	104.8	127.4	111.3
March r	150.2	143.3	104.8	121.4	116.9
April r	151.6	145.7	104.0	126.1	103.0
May p	154.7	147.1	105.2	120.1	112.5
1977 December-February	149.0	142.6	104.5	119.5	111.3
March-May 1978	152.2	145.4	104.7	122.5	110.8
Percentage change	+2	+2	–	+2½	−½

[1] Export unit value index as a percentage of the import unit value index.

Table 5 Balance of trade in oil and in other goods

Balance of payments basis — £ million seasonally adjusted

	Visible balance		
	Total trade	Trade in oil [1]	Trade in other goods
1976	−3 510	−3 973	+463
1977	−1 612	−2 804	+1 192
1976 1st quarter	−543	−947	+404
2nd quarter	−909	−968	+59
3rd quarter	−1 097	−1 058	−39
4th quarter	−961	−1 000	+39
1977 1st quarter	−947	−800	−147
2nd quarter	−764	−745	−19
3rd quarter	+54	−602	+656
4th quarter	+45	−657	+702
1978 1st quarter r	−574	−646	+72
1977 December	−76	−275	+199
1978 January r	−338	−234	−104
February r	+43	−203	+246
March r	−279	−209	−70
April r	+223	−115	+338
May p	−169	−109	−60
1977 Dec-Feb	−371	−712	+341
Mar-May 1978	−225	−432	+207

[1] Trade in petroleum and petroleum products.

Table 6 Trade in oil [2]

Balance of payments basis — Seasonally adjusted

		Exports of oil			Imports of oil				
	Balance of trade in oil	Total	Crude oil [1] [SITC (rev2) 333.0]	Rest of division 33	Total	Crude oil [SITC(rev 2) 333.0]			Rest of division 33
	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	£ million fob	million tonnes	Average value per tonne £ fob	£ million fob
1976	−3 973	1 172	178	994	5 145	4 089	87.0	47.0	1 056
1977	−2 804	1 965	904	1 061	4 769	3 681	68.6	53.7	1 088
1976 1st quarter	−947	221	18	203	1 168	925	21.8	42.7	243
2nd quarter	−968	266	24	242	1 234	962	21.1	45.8	272
3rd quarter	−1 058	307	45	262	1 365	1 080	22.2	48.8	285
4the quarter	−1 000	378	91	287	1 378	1 122	21.9	51.1	256
1977 1st quarter	−800	454	163	291	1 254	1 006	19.1	53.0	248
2nd quarter	−745	516	239	277	1 261	988	18.2	54.3	273
3rd quarter	−602	560	300	260	1 162	880	16.2	54.3	282
4th quarter	−657	435	202	233	1 092	807	15.1	53.2	285
1978 1st quarter r	−646	468	268	200	1 114	866	17.3	50.0	248
1977 December	−275	142	69	73	417	323	6.1	52.7	94
1978 January r	−234	149	81	68	383	311	6.1	50.7	72
February r	−203	153	94	59	356	271	5.4	49.8	85
March r	−209	166	93	73	375	284	5.8	49.2	91
April r	−115	170	75	95	285	220	4.3	50.8	65
May p	−109	199	115	84	308	243	4.8	50.7	65
1977 Dec-Feb	−712	444	244	200	1 156	905	17.7	51.2	251
Mar-May 1978	−432	535	283	252	967	746	14.9	50.2	221
Percentage change		+21	+16	+26	−16	−18	−16	−2	−12

[1] Not seasonally adjusted. [2] Trade in petroleum and petroleum products.

Table 6a Value and volume of exports and imports excluding the more erratic items[1]

Balance of payments basis — Seasonally adjusted

	Exports fob		Imports fob	
	value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100
1976	23 468	109.4	27 039	106.9
1977	29 501	118.0	31 108	107.4
1976 1st quarter	5 269	106.7	5 858	102.8
2nd quarter	5 639	108.5	6 479	105.2
3rd quarter	6 030	110.0	7 090	109.6
4th quarter	6 530	112.5	7 612	110.0
1977 1st quarter	6 929	115.1	7 927	111.1
2nd quarter	7 276	117.2	7 734	106.8
3rd quarter	7 792	122.7	7 909	108.2
4th quarter	7 504	116.9	7 538	103.6
1978 1st quarter r	7 841	121.4	8 381	116.4
1977 December	2 574	119.7	2 625	108.5
1978 January r	2 443	113.5	2 873	121.1
February r	2 749	127.5	2 659	110.5
March r	2 649	123.3	2 849	117.6
April r	2 667	124.1	2 564	104.3
May p	2 635	121.7	2 834	114.8
1977 December-February	7 766	120.2	8 157	113.4
March-May 1978	7 951	123.0	8 246	112.2
Percentage change	+2½	+2½	+1	−1

[1] These are defined as ships, North Sea production installations, aircraft and precious stones.

steady growth and rose by 3 per cent, while exports to the other developing countries were down by 4 per cent. The value of shipments to the centrally planned economies rose by 32 per cent largely reflecting high March shipments.

By commodity (tables 8, 9 and 10)

The value of exports of manufactured goods in the three months ended May was 1½ per cent higher than in the previous three months, with volumes unchanged. Within this broad group of commodities, exports of machinery were up by 2 per cent in value with volume up only marginally, while shipments of road vehicles, despite falling back in May, rose by 8½ per cent in value, reflecting increased volume. Chemical exports rose by 1½ per cent in value and 3 per cent in volume in the latest three months, while shipments of metals increased by 6 per cent in both value and volume. The value of textile exports was 2 per cent down with a volume fall of 2 per cent. The value of exports of other manufactured goods, which includes trade in precious stones, was unchanged, but volume fell by 7½ per cent; excluding precious stones value fell by 9½ per cent and volume by 11 per cent from earlier high levels. Exports of

Table 7 Exports by area

Overseas trade statistics basis — £ million fob seasonally adjusted

		Developed countries					Developing countries			
	Total	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Total	Oil-exporting countries	Other	Centrally planned economies
1976	26 024	18 612	9 249	4 298	3 116	1 949	6 630	3 221	3 409	726
1977	33 308	23 689	12 128	5 594	3 863	2 104	8 613	4 368	4 245	910
1977 1st quarter	7 716	5 539	2 813	1 300	902	525	1 925	1 026	899	207
2nd quarter	8 272	5 972	3 044	1 446	957	525	2 103	1 074	1 029	245
3rd quarter	8 829	6 290	3 161	1 506	1 083	541	2 213	1 132	1 081	258
4th quarter	8 491	5 888	3 110	1 342	922	513	2 372	1 135	1 236	200
1978 1st quarter	8 849	6 141	3 245	1 350	997	548	2 382	1 185	1 197	293
1978 March	2 970	2 000	1 088	396	322	194	801	393	408	133
April r	3 053	2 161	1 142	459	361	198	790	415	375	96
May p	3 013	2 193	1 174	512	325	182	807	416	391	73
1977 December-February	8 774	6 153	3 213	1 377	1 023	540	2 414	1 189	1 224	228
March-May 1978	9 036	6 353	3 405	1 367	1 008	574	2 398	1 225	1 173	302
Percentage change	+3	+3½	+6	−½	−1½	+6	−½	+3	−4	+32

Table 8 Exports by commodity

Overseas trade statistics basis — £ million fob seasonally adjusted

					Manufactures[2]								
					Machinery and transport equipment[2]								
	Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Other transport equipment[1,2]	Chemicals	Metals	Textiles	Other manufactures	Miscellaneous
SITC	0-9	0 + 1	2 + 4	3	5-8	7	71-77	78	79	5	67-69	65	Rest of 6 + 8	9
1976	26 024	1 692	735	1 265	21 616	10 383	6 994	2 377	1 012	3 007	2 362	972	4 892	715
1977	33 308	2 217	895	2 078	27 172	12 680	8 337	2 871	1 473	3 821	2 879	1 193	6 599	945
1977 1st quarter	7 716	494	228	482	6 263	2 863	1 925	669	270	879	699	298	1 543	214
2nd quarter	8 272	539	218	547	6 754	3 105	2 063	723	319	946	751	295	1 693	243
3rd quarter	8 829	591	232	588	7 189	3 394	2 128	736	530	1 029	742	309	1 634	244
4th quarter	8 491	593	218	462	6 966	3 318	2 221	744	354	967	688	292	1 730	244
1978 1st quarter	8 849	699	208	499	7 178	3 320	2 195	759	366	980	738	307	1 840	232
1978 March	2 970	234	73	179	2 386	1 126	740	270	115	327	254	102	567	83
April r	3 053	240	80	183	2 499	1 156	757	289	109	334	268	103	663	81
May p	3 013	238	78	210	2 417	1 137	749	253	135	343	251	93	623	73
1977 December-February	8 774	678	206	473	7 189	3 350	2 205	749	396	991	728	303	1 850	231
March-May 1978	9 036	712	231	572	7 302	3 418	2 247	812	359	1 004	773	297	1 852	237
Percentage change	+3	+5	+12	+21	+1½	+2	+2	+8½	−9	+1½	+6	−2	–	+2½

[1] Not seasonally adjusted. [2] Includes North Sea production installations.

non-manufactured goods in total rose by 12 per cent in value in the three months to May. Within this category, shipments of food, beverages and tobacco rose by 5 per cent in value but volume was up only marginally, following sharp growth earlier in the year. The 12 per cent increase in the value of deliveries of basic materials was more than accounted for by a rise in volume. Fuel exports in the three months to May, were 21 per cent above the low level of the previous period, mainly reflecting increased crude oil exports.

Imports

The three months comparisons for some of the component series are affected by the inclusion in the May import figures, on an overseas trade statistics basis, of a North Sea oil production installation valued at around £240 mil-

continued on page 707

Table 9 Exports by commodity: volume indices

Overseas trade statistics basis

Indices 1975 = 100 seasonally adjusted

					Manufactures[1]							
						Machinery and transport equipment[1,2]						
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Chemicals	Metals	Textiles	Other manu-factures
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	2 + 4	3	5-8	7	71-77	78	5	67-69	65	Rest of 6 + 8
Weights	1 000	71	26	41	828	419	287	92	107	92	36	174
1976	108.8	103	117	120	109	101	100	104	124	109	117	117
1977	118.9	111	125	164	118	105	102	105	141	117	120	135
1977 1st quarter	115.1	108	131	155	113	100	98	103	131	115	125	133
2nd quarter	118.7	109	118	170	118	105	102	106	141	121	120	136
3rd quarter	123.9	114	130	183	123	110	103	105	150	120	122	131
4th quarter	118.1	115	121	149	117	105	104	105	142	109	112	138
1978 1st quarter	121.8	137	120	174	118	103	100	107	144	115	120	142
1978 March	122.8	135	132	190	118	105	101	116	145	119	120	130
April r	124.3	137	145	193	122	108	103	126	148	127	119	141
May p	121.4	132	134	213	117	106	100	114	156	115	107	130
1977 December–February	120.8	134	115	160	119	104	101	104	146	113	118	145
March–May 1978	122.8	135	137	199	119	106	101	119	150	120	115	134
Percentage change	+1½	+½	+19	+24	–	+2½	+½	+14	+3	+6	−2	−7½

[1] Includes North Sea production installations. [2] Indices for other transport equipment SITC (rev 2) 79 are not separately available.

Table 10 Exports by commodity: unit value indices

Overseas trade statistics basis

Indices 1975= 100 not seasonally adjusted

					Manufactures							
						Machinery and transport equipment[1]						
	Total	Food beverages and tobacco	Basic materials	Fuels	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Chemicals	Metals	Textiles	Other manu-factures
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	2 + 4	3	5-8	7	71-77	78	5	67-69	65	Rest of 6 + 8
1976	120.7	115	124	126	121	122	122	123	114	119	115	124
1977	142.5	137	144	150	143	149	148	152	128	136	139	142
1977 1st quarter	136.2	131	143	144	136	139	139	142	127	133	133	137
2nd quarter	142.0	140	152	149	142	145	144	150	129	137	137	146
3rd quarter	145.7	143	146	153	146	152	151	155	130	136	142	147
4th quarter	147.5	140	139	150	149	157	156	160	131	137	145	145
1978 1st quarter	149.5	143	135	141	151	161	159	161	129	142	145	148
1978 March	150.2	145	136	139	152	161	160	162	129	142	144	150
April r	151.5	146	138	137	153	160	159	158	129	142	145	159
May p	154.6	148	143	143	156	162	161	160	130	147	147	166
1977 December–February	148.9	141	136	144	150	160	158	161	130	140	146	147
March–May 1978	152.1	147	139	140	154	161	160	160	130	144	145	158
Percentage change	+2	+4	+2	−3	+2	+1	+1	−1	−½	+2½	–	−7½

Table 11 Imports by area

Overseas trade statistics basis

£ million cif seasonally adjusted

		Developed countries					Developing countries			Centrally planned economies
	Total	Total	EEC	Rest of W. Europe	North America	Other	Total	Oil-exporting countries	Other	
1976	31 569	22 569	11 510	4 645	4 280	2 134	7 860	4 296	3 564	1 109
1977	36 996	27 420	14 161	5 582	4 997	2 680	8 167	3 804	4 362	1 357
1977 1st quarter	9 169	6 608	3 380	1 300	1 259	668	2 157	1 032	1 125	302
2nd quarter	9 601	7 212	3 551	1 647	1 309	705	2 117	1 030	1 087	342
3rd quarter	9 239	6 767	3 601	1 218	1 328	620	2 065	924	1 141	371
4th quarter	8 987	6 833	3 629	1 416	1 101	687	1 828	819	1 009	342
1978 1st quarter	9 870	7 463	3 874	1 553	1 307	728	1 975	925	1 050	310
1978 March	3 439	2 657	1 389	515	467	286	661	309	351	92
April r	2 990	2 399	1 340	444	416	200	556	237	319	83
May p	3 587	2 917	1 361	809	505	243	597	250	347	119
1977 December–February	9 590	7 244	3 755	1 589	1 213	687	1 952	939	1 013	334
March–May 1978	10 017	7 973	4 089	1 767	1 387	729	1 813	796	1 017	294
Percentage change	+4½	+10	+9	+11	+14	+6	−7	−15	+½	−12

Table 12 Imports by commodity

Overseas trade statistics basis

£ million cif seasonally adjusted

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures [2]						
									Machinery and transport equipment [2]					
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Other transport equipment [1,2]	Other	Miscellaneous
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	3	2,4,5,6	2 + 4	5	6	7 + 8	7	71-77	78	79	8	9
1976	31 569	4 983	5 669	11 245	3 248	1 924	6 073	9 225	6 755	4 305	1 432	1 019	2 470	447
1977	36 996	5 945	5 252	13 491	3 612	2 365	7 513	11 803	8 780	5 298	2 133	1 349	3 023	505
1977 1st quarter	9 169	1 502	1 375	3 358	981	604	1 773	2 739	1 995	1 285	485	225	744	119
2nd quarter	9 601	1 561	1 377	3 462	888	593	1 981	3 086	2 346	1 297	496	553	741	122
3rd quarter	9 239	1 547	1 278	3 324	897	599	1 828	2 964	2 204	1 369	555	280	760	141
4th quarter	8 987	1 336	1 223	3 346	847	569	1 931	3 014	2 236	1 347	598	291	778	123
1978 1st quarter	9 870	1 521	1 267	3 606	845	653	2 108	3 268	2 416	1 442	669	305	852	119
1978 March	3 439	533	426	1 278	291	237	749	1 131	853	493	232	128	278	42
April r	2 990	526	321	1 063	252	227	584	1 051	771	492	198	81	281	42
May p	3 587	502	353	1 286	288	222	776	1 420	1 112	539	254	319	308	44
1977 Dec–Feb	9 590	1 445	1 310	3 501	851	605	2 045	3 187	2 358	1 403	664	281	839	118
March–May 1978	10 017	1 561	1 101	3 627	831	687	2 110	3 602	2 736	1 524	683	528	867	128
Percentage change	+4½	+8	−16	+3½	−2½	+14	+3	+13	+16	+8½	+3	+88	+3½	+9

[1] Not seasonally adjusted. [2] Includes North Sea production installations.

Table 13 Imports by commodity: volume indices

Overseas trade statistics basis

Indices 1975 = 100 seasonally adjusted

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures [1]				
									Machinery and transport equipment [1,2]			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Other
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	3	2,4,5,6	2 + 4	5	6	7 + 8	7	71-77	78	8
Weights	1 000	177	177	341	92	55	194	283	207	137	37	76
1976	106.4	102	100	112	119	122	106	109	108	104	127	110
1977	108.8	102	83	116	112	133	113	123	125	117	160	118
1977 1st quarter	109.5	105	87	117	122	137	109	118	117	116	148	120
2nd quarter	112.1	107	85	117	109	134	116	130	134	116	150	118
3rd quarter	108.0	104	80	114	111	135	110	123	125	119	168	116
4th quarter	105.5	92	78	117	109	128	117	123	125	116	177	118
1978 1st quarter	116.4	101	85	128	116	153	126	132	132	126	174	133
1978 March	120.3	103	87	135	122	169	132	135	138	128	176	126
April r	103.4	101	64	113	105	158	104	123	122	124	150	124
May p	122.0	97	70	133	118	157	134	163	172	139	191	137
1977 December-February	113.5	99	87	124	114	139	124	130	129	122	183	132
March-May 1978	115.2	100	74	127	115	161	123	140	144	130	172	129
Percentage change	+1½	+1½	−15	+3	+1	+16	–	+8	+12	+7	−6	−2

[1] Includes North Sea production installations. [2] Indices for other transport equipment SITC (rev 2) 79 are not separately available.

Table 14 Imports by commodity: unit value indices

Overseas trade statistics basis

Indices 1975 = 100 not seasonally adjusted

				Industrial materials				Finished manufactures				
									Machinery and transport Equipment [1]			
	Total	Food, beverages and tobacco	Fuels	Total	Basic materials	Chemicals	Other Semi-manufactures	Total	Total	Machinery	Road vehicles	Other
SITC (rev 2)	0-9	0 + 1	3	2,4,5,6	2 + 4	5	6	7 + 8	7	71-77	78	8
1976	122.5	113	131	121	123	120	121	125	127	127	128	121
1977	141.6	132	148	141	145	140	140	144	146	144	155	139
1977 1st quarter	138.4	125	147	140	147	134	139	141	142	141	150	136
2nd quarter	142.0	130	150	144	149	140	143	143	145	143	153	139
3rd quarter	143.9	134	150	144	149	143	142	147	149	147	156	143
4th quarter	142.9	136	146	140	140	143	139	149	152	149	161	143
1978 1st quarter	141.6	139	138	138	131	142	140	150	154	148	172	141
1978 March	142.4	139	136	139	129	143	142	153	155	149	177	146
April r	144.8	140	140	141	131	146	144	156	158	151	179	150
May p	146.0	142	140	143	133	145	147	156	159	150	184	149
1977 December-February	141.6	138	140	138	134	143	139	149	153	149	167	139
March-May 1978	144.4	141	139	141	131	145	144	155	158	150	180	148
Percentage change	+2	+2	−1	+2	−2	+1½	+4	+3½	+2½	+1	+7½	+6½

[1] Indices for other transport equipment SITC (rev 2) 79 are not separately available.

Table 15 Derivation of the visible trade figures on a balance of payments basis

£ million

	Exports				Imports				
	Recorded	Seasonally adjusted			Recorded	Seasonally adjusted			
							Adjustment to bop basis		
	Overseas trade statistics basis (fob)	Overseas trade statistics basis (fob)	Valuation and coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis (fob)	Overseas trade statistics basis (cif)	Overseas trade statistics basis (cif)	Valuation adjustments	Coverage adjustments	Balance of payments basis (fob)
1976	26 024	26 024	−602	25 422	31 569	31 569	−1 944	−693	28 932
1977	33 308	33 308	−1 132	32 176	36 996	36 996	−2 184	−1 024	33 788
1976 1st quarter	5 848	5 784	−129	5 655	6 846	6 763	−423	−142	6 198
2nd quarter	6 459	6 303	−132	6 171	7 927	7 753	−480	−193	7 080
3rd quarter	6 309	6 617	−118	6 499	7 873	8 208	−518	−94	7 596
4th quarter	7 408	7 320	−223	7 097	8 923	8 845	−523	−264	8 058
1977 1st quarter	7 809	7 716	−214	7 502	9 217	9 169	−577	−143	8 449
2nd quarter	8 463	8 272	−342	7 930	9 766	9 601	−590	−317	8 694
3rd quarter	8 486	8 829	−289	8 540	8 964	9 239	−536	−217	8 486
4th quarter	8 550	8 491	−287	8 204	9 049	8 987	−481	−347	8 159
1978 1st quarter r	8 752	8 849	−408	8 441	9 791	9 870	−549	−306	9 015
1977 December	2 808	2 894	−114	2 780	3 053	3 159	−169	−134	2 856
1978 January r	2 702	2 772	−149	2 623	3 241	3 274	−186	−127	2 961
February r	2 933	3 108	−119	2 989	2 987	3 157	−170	−41	2 946
March r	3 117	2 970	−141	2 829	3 563	3 439	−193	−138	3 108
April r	3 109	3 053	−53	3 000	3 053	2 990	−166	−47	2 777
May p	3 193	3 013	−136	2 877	3 671	3 587	−190	−351	3 046
1977 Dec-Feb	8 443	8 774	−382	8 392	9 281	9 590	−525	−302	8 763
Mar-May 1978	9 419	9 036	−329	8 707	10 287	10 017	−550	−535	8 932
Percentage change	+12	+3		+3½	+11	+4½			+2

Table 16 Exports: Value and volume indices excluding the more erratic items

Overseas trade statistics basis — Seasonally adjusted

			Manufactures					
	Total [1]		Total [1]		Machinery and transport equipment [2]		Other manufactures [3]	
	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100
1976	23 705	108.1	19 297	108	9 407	101	3 549	115
1977	29 852	116.8	23 717	115	11 245	102	4 578	128
1977 1st quarter	7 008	113.9	5 555	112	2 595	99	1 102	128
2nd quarter	7 356	116.0	5 837	115	2 792	103	1 090	124
3rd quarter	7 889	121.5	6 249	120	2 885	104	1 203	132
4th quarter	7 600	115.9	6 075	114	2 974	104	1 184	129
1978 1st quarter	7 931	120.1	6 259	116	2 966	102	1 275	136
1978 March	2 678	122.0	2 093	117	1 016	105	385	123
April r	2 696	122.8	2 142	120	1 051	109	410	130
May p	2 665	120.6	2 069	116	1 008	104	403	128
1977 December-February	7 862	119.0	6 277	117	2 964	102	1 323	142
March-May 1978	8 038	121.8	6304	117	3 075	106	1 198	127
Percentage change	+2	+2½	+½	+½	+3½	+4	−9½	−11

[1] Excluding ships, North Sea production installations, aircraft and precious stones. [2] Excluding ships, North Sea production installations and aircraft. [3] Excluding precious stones.

Table 17 Imports: Value and volume indices excluding the more erratic items

Overseas trade statistics basis — Seasonally adjusted

			Industrial materials				Finished manufactures			
	Total [1]		Total [2]		Other semi-manufactures [2]		Total [2]		Machinery and transport equipment [2]	
	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100	Value £ million	Volume index 1975 = 100
1976	29 399	106.6	10 081	114	4 909	108	8 219	110	5 748	109
1977	33 818	107.5	11 644	114	5 666	109	10 471	124	7 449	126
1977 1st quarter	8 624	110.8	3 034	119	1 450	112	2 518	122	1 773	122
2nd quarter	8 443	106.9	2 856	111	1 375	104	2 534	121	1 794	123
3rd quarter	8 593	108.4	2 951	116	1 455	112	2 691	126	1 931	130
4th quarter	8 158	103.7	2 803	112	1 387	108	2 728	126	1 951	129
1978 1st quarter	9 030	115.7	3 062	126	1 564	122	2 972	135	2 120	136
1978 March	3 075	117.2	1 038	129	510	119	1 006	135	729	139
April r	2 761	103.6	913	112	434	101	972	128	691	130
May p	3 048	114.3	1 063	129	553	127	1 104	146	796	150
1977 Dec-Feb	8 794	112.9	2 978	121	1 522	119	2 915	134	2 076	135
Mar-May 1978	8 884	111.7	3 014	123	1 497	115	3 082	136	2 216	139
Percentage change	+1	−1	+1	+2	−1½	−2½	+5½	+1½	+6½	+3

[1] Excluding ships, North Sea production installations, aricraft and precious stones. [2] Excluding ships, North Sea production installations and aircraft. [3] Excluding precious stones.

lion. Only a small part of this value, however, is included in the figures on a balance of payments basis (see note 1).

By area (table 11)
In the three months ended May, the value of imports from the developed countries was 10 per cent higher than in the previous three months. Deliveries from the EEC increased by 9 per cent and those from the rest of western Europe by 11 per cent, the latter increase was more than accounted for by the arrival of North Sea installations in May. Imports from North America rose by 14 per cent, while arrivals from the other developed countries increased by 6 per cent. Imports from the developing countries were 7 per cent lower, with a fall of 15 per cent in arrivals from the oil exporting countries and an unchanged level in deliveries from the other developing countries. There was a further fall of 12 per cent in deliveries from the centrally planned economies.

By commodity (tables 12, 13, 14 and 17)
In the three months ended May, imports of food, beverages and tobacco increased by 8 per cent in value and 1½ per cent in volume. Fuel deliveries fell by 16 per cent in value and 15 per cent in volume, with low arrivals in both April and May. Between the three month periods, imports of industrial materials in total were up by 3½ per cent in value and 3 per cent in volume; excluding precious stones the increases were 1 per cent and 2 per cent, respectively. Within this group, imports of basic materials fell by 2½ per cent in value, but increased by 1 per cent in volume, with price falling between the periods. Chemical imports rose by 14 per cent in value and 16 per cent in volume, with deliveries remaining at a high level in May. Arrivals of other semi-manufactures increased by 3 per cent in value, entirely reflecting higher prices, with no change in volume; excluding precious stones there would have been falls of 1½ per cent in value and 2½ per cent in volume. Imports of finished manufactures rose by 13 per cent in value and 8 per cent in volume; excluding the more erratic items the increases were 5½ per cent and 1½ per cent respectively. Within finished manufactures, the value of machinery imports rose by 8½ per cent, largely reflecting a volume increase of 7 per cent. The value of deliveries of road vehicles increased by 3 per cent, but fell by 6 per cent in volume, with a sharp increase in price in the latest period. Imports of other finished manufactures (which includes certain consumer goods) were 3½ per cent higher in value, but 2 per cent lower in volume.

Notes

1 Treatment of oil platform in May import figures
The May import figures include an oil platform, which was one of two moved to Norway in July last year for completion. However, because no effective change in ownership has taken place, the import figures on a balance of payments basis include only the value of additional foreign goods (amounting to about £25 million) used in completing the platform. This mirrors the treatment adopted for exports last July when the value of the platforms was included in the figures on an overseas trade statistics basis but excluded on a balance of payments.

During the completion process expenditure was incurred for services (the value of contracts for finishing the platform other than the supply of major items of equipment) and the estimates of net invisible earnings in recent quarters incorporate appropriate debits.

2 Industrial dispute at Southampton docks
The industrial dispute at Southampton docks, which began early in April, ended on 11 May. Although it is difficult to quantify the distortions to the monthly figures resulting from the dispute, the levels of trade in April were depressed – with imports more affected than exports – while in May they were enhanced. These distortions, small in relation to the flows of exports and imports, may have accounted for up to one-quarter of the erratic swing in the visible trade balance between April and May.

3 Revisions
As a result of later and more complete information the figures of exports and imports on a balance of payments basis for the first quarter have been revised; this and the first quarter estimate for invisibles have resulted in an increase of £85 million in the current deficit in the quarter. In addition the estimates of the invisibles balance have been revised upwards for 1976 and 1977 by around £250 million and £200 million respectively. These revised figures were incorporated in the Central Statistical Office's quarterly press notice on UK balance of payments in the first quarter of 1978 which was issued on 7 June.

Standard notes
Standard notes on definitions and coverage of the figures were published in *Trade and Industry*, 17 February.

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Trends in the distribution of incomes

Between 1949 and the financial year 1975-76, the share of personal income of the UK's top 1 per cent of tax-units (a married couple or an unmarried individual), fell by a half – from 11.2 per cent to 5.6 per cent.

The information is given in an article on trends in the distribution of income in the latest issue of *Economic Trends* (May 1978, HMSO, £1.95).

Although the most marked decline was at the very top of the distribution, others with high incomes were similarly affected. The pre-tax income share of the top ten per cent fell during the period from 33.2 to 25.8 per cent. The bulk of this reduction was, however, reflected as an increase in the income share of the next 40 per cent of the distribution, whose pre-tax income share rose from 43.1 per cent in 1949 to 49.9 per cent in 1975-76. The lower half of the distribution experienced only a modest rise from 23.7 per cent to 24.3 per cent.

The distribution of incomes after tax displayed some similar trends, but the income share transferred from the top of the distribution was somewhat more evenly spread over the remainder of the distribution than in the case of pre-tax incomes. The post-tax income share of the top ten per cent fell from 27.1 per cent to 22.3 per cent over the period. That of the next 40 per cent rose from 46.6 to 50.3 per cent and that of the lower half of the distribution from 26.5 to 27.4 per cent. Over the period as a whole, the reduction in the share of the highest pre-tax incomes and the growing impact of tax on middle to upper incomes lessened the influence of income tax in reshaping the pattern of income shares.

In considering factors underlying the trends, the article refers to a study by the royal commission on the distribution of income and wealth, which found that the changes observed in the lower 90 per cent of the income distribution were to some extent the outcome of demographic and social changes which have taken place over the last 25 years, such as changes in the pattern and extent of marriage, the increase in the proportion of the population which is elderly, the rise in female employment and the increase in the proportion of the population in full-time education.

Another important factor influencing trends is pay differentials. Since 1968, the relative pay of those at or about the top percentile of earnings declined substantially. This factor will have contributed to the phenomena observed in the overall income distribution.

Another article in *Economic Trends* presents in detail the latest estimates of the income distribution, for the financial year 1975-76 – before the first stage of incomes policy could have had much effect. The small change in the pattern of income shares from 1974-75 to 1975-76 represented a continuation of the trends apparent since 1949: the income share of the top ten per cent fell from 26.6 per cent to 25.8 per cent pre-tax and from 23.2 to 22.3 per cent post-tax. The next 40 per cent of the distribution increased its share of income before tax by 0.7 percentage points to 49.9 per cent, and of income after tax by 0.5 points to 50.3 per cent. There was no significant change in the pre-tax share of the lower half of the distribution, but its post-tax share rose from 27.0 per cent to 27.4 per cent between the two years.

As well as giving estimates on a basis comparable with earlier years, the article introduces some new estimates based on a somewhat expanded definition of income, the principal new component of which is income expended on mortgage payments. The additions increase the amount of income covered by the distribution by nearly £2½ billion, or 3 per cent. With the change in definition, there is seen to be slightly more inequality in the distribution of income – particularly after tax – than was apparent before. The increase in inequality arises because the new items of income form a greater proportion of higher-level incomes (over 5½ per cent at the top but only ½ per cent at the bottom). Since these payments are not taxed, they make a greater impact on the post-tax distribution.

Wholesale price indices in May

Output prices

The provisional price index for the home sales of manufactured products increased by ½ per cent in May to 284.4 (1970 = 100).

The index for manufactured products other than food, drink and tobacco was also ½ per cent higher as a result of increases spread across most sectors. This index increased by 2 per cent in the latest three months.

The 1 per cent increase in the index for the metal manufacturing industries was accounted for by increases for a wide range of products.

Higher prices for electrical machinery were responsible for more than half of the ¾ per cent increase in the index for the electrical engineering industries. The most significant contributor to the ½ per cent increase in the index for the mechanical engineering industries was mechanical handling equipment.

The ¾ per cent increase in the index for the bricks, cement, etc, industries was the result of higher prices for a number of building materials other than bricks and cement.

More than half of the ½ per cent increase in the index for the paper industries was accounted for by increased prices for cartons.

Higher prices for animal and poultry foods and for bacon curing, meat and fish products accounted for most of the ¾ per cent rise in May in the index for the output of the food manufacturing industries. This index increased by 2½ per cent in the latest three months.

The change in the index for all manufactured products measured over a 12-month

More about wholesale price indices

General inquiries and	01-215 3544
Tables 1, 1a and 2	01-215 3073
Tables 3a and 4a	
engineering	01-215 3549
chemicals, steel, building materials, etc	01-215 5216
textiles, clothing, timber, paper, etc	01-215 3548
Tables 3b, 4b and 5	01-215 3173

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Table 1 Price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased

1970 = 100

1968 SIC Orders or MLH Numbers		1977 1st qtr	1977 2nd qtr	1977 3rd qtr	1977 4th qtr	1978 1st qtr	1977 May	1977 Oct	1977 Nov	1977 Dec	1978 Jan	1978 Feb	1978 Mar	1978 Apr p	1978 May p
Orders III to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry:	341.5	347.7	340.5	330.6	326.7	348.3	333.8	329.9	328.0	324.9	324.2	331.0	337.5	341.8
	Materials [1]	351.6	356.1	347.6	336.6	331.7	356.7	340.2	335.8	333.7	329.9	329.2	336.1	342.2	347.0
	Coal (except for carbonising), gas and electricity	244.8	267.8	273.0	273.3	278.5	267.9	273.1	273.3	273.6	276.6	276.6	282.2	293.2	293.0
Orders IV to XIX	Materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry, other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	355.8	359.0	355.8	345.2	335.9	360.2	349.9	344.1	341.6	333.1	333.1	341.5	349.3	354.3
	Materials [1]	371.6	372.0	367.7	355.5	344.1	373.3	360.9	354.2	351.3	341.2	341.1	350.0	357.3	363.0
Order III	Materials and fuel purchased by the food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	303.0	320.1	309.8	303.8	310.9	320.0	303.8	303.9	303.7	310.8	309.3	312.5	317.2	319.0
	Materials and fuels purchased by selected broad sectors of industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	309.4	322.9	308.0	302.7	310.8	322.0	302.2	303.0	302.8	311.2	309.0	312.2	315.5	318.0
	Materials	310.3	323.4	307.8	302.3	310.7	322.4	301.8	302.6	302.4	311.1	308.9	312.0	315.2	317.8
	Fuel [2]	283.7	309.1	312.2	311.6	314.5	310.9	311.4	311.6	311.7	313.4	313.4	316.8	322.8	322.6
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	307.1	321.2	308.0	302.4	309.5	319.7	302.0	302.9	302.2	309.7	307.9	310.9	312.8	315.0
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	319.3	330.4	327.0	326.7	325.8	332.5	327.7	325.6	326.7	323.3	324.1	329.9	336.8	340.1
311 and 312	Steel industries	303.7	319.7	324.4	327.2	323.8	319.8	326.8	328.4	326.3	323.9	323.3	324.3	329.1	331.8
321 to 323	Non ferrous metals industry	222.3	220.0	213.6	213.9	203.6	222.0	215.4	211.8	214.4	206.2	201.4	203.1	207.3	211.5
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering industries	283.7	289.1	294.9	301.7	306.5	289.5	301.3	301.5	302.2	305.1	305.9	308.5	312.5	315.3
Order IX	Electrical engineering industries	249.2	252.3	251.4	254.6	256.7	253.1	254.8	253.6	255.5	256.5	255.5	258.1	262.7	265.1
Order X	Shipbuilding and marine engineering industries	275.9	281.7	285.4	294.2	296.8	282.0	293.8	294.3	294.6	296.2	296.8	297.4	300.6	302.4
Order XII	Metal goods industries	298.2	302.6	305.8	312.4	317.0	303.5	313.5	312.4	311.3	313.7	316.1	321.3	324.1	327.4
Order XIII	Textile industries	298.6	297.1	290.3	286.9	288.2	298.1	288.8	285.2	286.8	284.8	287.3	292.5	299.4	306.0
Order XV	Clothing and footwear industries	240.9	246.9	249.3	250.4	253.8p	247.3	250.0	250.3	250.9	253.1	253.2	255.2p	257.3	259.0
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement etc industries	298.3	313.8	321.4	325.6	332.0	314.2	324.8	325.5	326.5	330.3	330.9	334.8	337.9	339.3
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	289.4	306.3	315.9	320.3	326.3	306.0	319.8	320.3	320.8	325.7	326.0	327.3	330.3	333.2
Order XVII	Timber industries	319.9	327.4	329.5	323.8	320.6	327.5	325.9	323.9	321.6	321.2	320.5	320.1	320.8	321.9
481 to 484	Paper industries	312.5	317.6	314.1	291.8	282.6	317.9	294.9	291.9	288.5	282.4	281.4	284.0	286.8	289.6
Order XX	Construction materials	284.0	294.0	301.4	305.3	308.9	294.3	304.4	305.6	306.0	307.0	308.6	311.2	314.5	316.7
Part of Order XX	House building materials	288.6	299.8	308.2	310.8	313.5	300.3	310.2	311.2	310.9	311.4	313.1	316.0	319.1	320.8

[1] Includes crude oil and coal for carbonising. [2] Includes petroleum products. p Provisional

Table 1a Price index numbers of materials and fuel purchased by selected sectors of industry

1970 = 100

1968 SIC		1977 1st qtr	1977 2nd qtr	1977 3rd qtr	1977 4th qtr	1978 1st qtr	1977 May	1977 Oct	1977 Nov	1977 Dec	1978 Jan	1978 Feb	1978 Mar	1978 Apr p	1978 May p
361	Electrical machinery industry	264.2	268.3	271.3	276.8	280.6	268.7	276.8	276.3	277.2	279.5	279.7	282.6	286.9	289.6
362	Insulated wires and cables industry	198.6	197.7	188.9	188.9	187.8	198.1	189.5	187.1	190.1	189.0	186.1	188.4	194.3	198.1
364	Radio and electronic components industry	259.5	266.7	270.7	275.4	279.0	267.1	275.2	275.1	276.0	278.1	278.6	280.4	283.4	285.1
368	Domestic appliances industry	255.0	260.2	264.6	269.2	273.8	260.6	268.9	269.1	269.7	272.4	273.3	275.6	278.4	280.8
369	Electrical goods industries n.e.s.	254.2	259.0	259.7	264.1	264.7	260.5	263.9	263.5	264.9	265.2	263.5	265.5	268.9	270.0
381	Motor vehicle industry	285.2	291.0	298.4	304.1	310.4	291.1	303.4	304.4	304.5	308.2	309.9	313.1	316.4	319.3
411	Man-made fibres industry	277.8	284.6	286.5	284.4	282.3	285.2	285.4	284.0	283.9	280.7	281.5	284.6	288.8	289.4
414	Woollen and worsted industry	333.3	315.9	309.0	306.7	300.2	315.4	310.1	305.0	305.0	296.7	299.1	304.8	317.0	331.8
422/1	Household textiles and handkerchief industry	269.3	277.5	275.5	271.8	272.5 p	278.3	272.8	271.6	270.9	271.8	272.1	273.6 p	276.2	277.7
450	Footwear industry	239.3	245.6	248.5	249.6	251.8 p	245.9	249.4	249.7	249.6	250.9	251.3	253.2 p	255.7	256.8
481	Paper and board making industry	318.1	325.1	318.2	284.3	270.9	325.4	288.9	284.6	279.4	270.4	269.6	272.6	275.8	279.6

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period fell again from 10¾ per cent in April to 9½ per cent in May. The index last showed an annual increase of less than 10 per cent in November 1973. The increase over the latest six months was 4½ per cent.

Input prices

The provisional price index for materials and fuel purchased by manufacturing industry rose by 1¼ per cent in May to 341.8. Over the last 12 months the index has fallen by 1¾ per cent.

The rise of 1¼ per cent in the index for materials purchased by manufacturing industry other than the food, drink and tobacco industries was mainly due to the further depreciation of sterling against the dollar in May. Crude oil accounted for nearly half of the increase. This index rose by 6½ per cent in the latest three months.

A sharp rise in mohair prices accounted for more than half of the 2¼ per cent increase in the index for materials and fuel purchased by the textile industries. Higher prices for wool and cotton also made a significant contribution. This index increased by 6½ per cent in the lastest three months.

Higher prices for tin were responsible for almost half of the 2 per cent increase in May in the index for the non-ferrous metals industry. Higher prices for copper, copper scrap and cobalt, a result of the recent troubles in Zaire, also contributed to the increase. Copper was also the main contributor to the increase of 1 per cent in the index for the electrical engineering industries. Higher prices for heavy steel scrap were mainly responsible for the ¾ per cent increase in the index for the steel industries.

More than half of the 1 per cent increase in the index for the paper industries was accounted for by woodpulp for paper making.

The indices for the chemicals and the pottery and glass industries both rose by 1 per cent, with the most significant contribution coming from sharply increased prices for shellac in the former and from soda ash in the latter.

Higher prices for home-produced cereals and coffee were mainly responsible for the ¾ per cent increase in the index for materials purchased by the food manufacturing industries. This index rose by 3 per cent in the latest three months.

Rebasing of wholesale price index numbers

As announced in *Trade and Industry*, 21 April and 21 May, the present series of wholesale price index numbers which are based on 1968 with 1970 = 100 are to be replaced by a new series based on 1974 with 1975 as 100. The new series will first be published on 22 September.

There will also be some new indices, and some indices previously published in *Trade and Industry* will either be no longer available or will be available only on request with reservations as to their statistical reliability. Existing indices which are affected have been annotated in the relevant tables (3a and 3b).

Notes on wholesale price indices

1 Detailed notes on index numbers of wholesale prices were last shown in *Trade and Industry*, 14 April 1978.

2 The index numbers are constructed on a net sector basis. This is to say, the price movements used to compile the index for a particular sector of industry are only those relating to transactions between the sector and other sectors. Transactions between undertakings in the same sector are excluded. Thus index numbers for the whole of manufacturing industry are not weighted averages of sector index numbers.

3 All the index numbers are compiled exclusive of value added tax and (before its abolition) of purchase tax. Revenue duties (on cigarettes and manufactured tobacco, alcoholic liquor, matches and mechanical lighters) are included. The duty on hydrocarbon oils is excluded from output price series that cover these products (unless specifically noted to the contrary) but is included in series for materials and fuel purchased by sectors of industry.

4 Firm and provisional indices, at all levels of aggregation, include imputation for items for which there is no current price information. Additional provisional figures will be published for those indices where there are insufficient returns to allow accurate imputation.

5 Revisions to firm index numbers will only be made if they are significant. These revisions will be notified when the series are next published.

6 A list of commodities produced in the United Kingdom supplementary to those shown in table 3a is published in table 4a in April, August and December. Similarly a list of commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom supplementary to those shown in table 3b is published in table 4b.

Table 2 Price index numbers of output (home sales)

1970 = 100

1968 SIC Orders or MLH Numbers		1977				1978	1977				1978				
		1st qtr	2nd qtr	3rd qtr	4th qtr	1st qtr	May	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr p	May p
Orders III to XIX	Output of Manufactured Products	248.0	259.2	267.7	272.1	279.0	259.8	271.0	272.0	273.3	277.1	279.2	280.6	282.8	284.4
Orders IV to XIX	Products of manufacturing industries other than food, drink and tobacco manufacturing industries	254.5	264.4	272.9	279.1	286.8	265.2	277.6	279.3	280.5	284.8	287.1	288.6	290.9	292.6
	Output of selected broad sectors of industry														
211 to 229	Food manufacturing industries	267.3	282.9	295.6	295.1	300.0	283.5	295.0	293.8	296.5	298.2	300.3	301.5	304.9	307.5
211 to 229 (excluding MLH 219)	Food manufacturing industries (excluding animal and poultry foods)	262.5	279.1	294.8	297.2	303.2	279.9	296.4	295.7	299.4	301.2	303.5	304.8	308.5	310.6
Order V	Chemicals and allied industries	239.7	248.5	256.9	261.3	268.5	248.5	260.1	261.4	262.3	267.3	268.6	269.6	270.9	272.9
Order VI	Metal manufacturing	283.8	286.4	291.9	300.3	305.1	286.7	300.6	299.7	300.6	304.8	304.7	305.8	308.0	310.2
311 and 312	Steel industries	311.0	313.1	321.6	334.7	342.9	313.0	334.3	334.8	334.9	341.7	342.9	344.0	345.3	346.3
Orders VII to XII	Engineering and allied industries	248.1	258.3	267.6	275.2	284.1	259.4	273.1	275.3	277.1	281.5	284.6	286.3	288.8	290.5
Order VII (excluding MLH 342)	Mechanical engineering	255.7	264.3	273.2	281.4	291.2	264.4	279.1	281.6	283.6	289.1	291.3	293.2	296.5	298.0
Order VIII	Instrument engineering	211.6	217.3	227.4	233.2	243.2	218.1	231.2	232.2	236.3	242.2	243.4	244.1	244.6	246.0
Order IX	Electrical engineering	223.1	232.6	237.8	245.5	251.3	233.3	242.9	246.6	247.0	249.0	251.3	253.5	256.5	258.3
Order XI (exluding MLH 383)	Vehicles	277.1	293.5	308.6	316.4	329.2	297.0	314.6	315.8	318.8	325.0	331.1	331.6	333.0	335.0
Order XII	Metal goods industries n.e.s.	263.5	272.1	278.2	287.3	294.8	271.9	286.1	287.4	288.5	291.8	294.9	297.6	302.4	303.5
Order XIII	Textile industries	234.9	241.6	244.7	247.6	254.5	241.8	246.8	247.5	248.4	253.6	254.5	255.5	257.2	258.4
Order XV	Clothing and footwear	202.4	206.6	213.3	218.7	226.6	206.6	217.4	219.0	219.7	225.0	226.6	228.1	228.7	229.4
441 to 445 and 449	Made-up clothing	195.5	198.4	204.4	209.9	216.2	198.1	208.8	209.9	210.9	214.6	216.3	217.6	218.2	218.6
461, 464 and 469	Bricks, cement etc industries	279.8	294.7	309.5	317.7	322.6	293.8	315.9	318.2	318.9	320.0	321.6	326.2	331.6	334.2
462 and 463	Pottery and glass industries	251.4	266.2	272.2	285.1	292.8	267.0	281.8	286.0	287.5	289.5	293.4	295.5	298.1	298.7
Order XVII	Timber industries	266.6	275.7	280.8	286.3	299.4	275.8	285.4	286.4	287.1	292.3	294.9	296.0	297.5	298.4
481 to 484	Paper industries	278.5	284.4	290.1	294.9	296.4	285.2	294.5	295.0	295.2	295.6	296.5	297.1	298.9	300.4

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Table 3a Commodities produced in the United Kingdom (published monthly)

1968 SIC		1977	1978			
		May	Feb	Mar	Apr p	May p
	Mining and quarrying					
101	Coal	402.7	410.9	441.1	441.0	441.0
102	Stone and slate quarrying and mining	314.8	332.9	334.0 p	334.8	345.3
102/1	Granite and limestone roadstone	294.1	311.8	313.0 p	314.8	327.3
	Coated limestone roadstone	375.4	387.9	388.7	388.7	401.6
	Granite and other chippings	264.1	281.4	281.9 p	284.0	297.0
103	Chalk, clay, sand and gravel extraction					
	Sand and gravel – ex pit or works	297.1	335.6	336.8	344.1	345.7
	Sand and gravel – delivered	243.7	263.5	265.4	272.4	273.9
	Food, drink and tobacco					
240	Tobacco	208.8	219.7	219.7	219.7	219.7
	Coal and petroleum products					
261	Coke ovens and manufactured fuel					
	Foundry coke	468.7	468.7	491.9	510.1	510.1
262	Mineral oil refining					
	Petroleum products	497.6	497.6	497.6	497.6	497.6
	Motor spirit two star (including duty) [1]	243.3	226.8	226.8	226.8	226.8
	Medium fuel oil (950-secs including duty) [1]	505.4	505.4	505.4	505.4	505.4
	Derv fuel (including duty) [1]	240.6	240.6	240.6	240.6	240.6
263	Lubricating oils and greases	282.4	289.4	288.7	288.7	288.7 a
	Chemicals and allied industries					
271	General chemicals	285.3	292.3	294.8	296.0	296.9
271/1	Inorganic chemicals (including inorganic gases)	274.0	293.4	299.2	302.0	303.1
271/2	Organic chemicals (including organic gases)	309.0	307.1	306.4	306.2	306.3
272	Pharmaceutical chemicals and preparations					
	Pharmaceutical chemicals	260.5	283.8	283.8	286.0	287.0 b
	Pharmaceutical preparations	218.1	236.9	238.0	241.3	244.3
273	Toilet preparations	216.7	237.6	238.1	239.7	241.5
274	Paint	257.1	289.5	289.5	290.4	297.3
276	Synthetic resins and plastics materials and synthetic rubber					
276/1	Synthetic resins and plastics materials	242.9	250.1	250.4	252.4	254.0 e
	Polyolefin moulding materials	247.7	243.9	245.0	246.8	248.5 e a
	Polyvinyl chlorides	280.8	283.0	283.0	285.3	287.9 e a
279	Other chemical industries					
279/3	Explosives, fireworks etc	279.1	314.2	315.1	315.1	315.1
	Metal manufacture					
311/2	Steel					
	Steel sheets	286.5	312.5	312.6	312.6	312.6 a
	Electrical steel sheets	297.0	325.9	325.9	325.9	325.9
	Stainless steel sheets	235.4	235.6	235.9	235.9	235.9
	Uncoated steel sheets (other than stainless and electrical)	295.5	325.8	325.8	325.8	325.8
	Galvanised steel sheets	290.2	314.5	314.5	314.5	314.5
	Tinplate	305.1	349.4	358.1	358.1	358.1
	Semi-finished steels	349.1	359.8	359.8	365.3	367.3 a
	Semi-finished steels for forgings (other than drop forgings)	364.0	382.6	382.6	392.3	395.9 a
	Semi-finished steels for alloy stainless products (except sheets and tubes)	303.8	316.4	316.4	333.2	339.3 a
	Semi-finished steels for drop-forgings and stampings	353.0	373.8	373.8	373.8	373.8 a
	Semi-finished steels for tubes	360.1	367.6	367.6	370.3	371.2 a
	Semi-finished steel for forgings (other than drop forgings) (using Public Sector indicators)	361.2	379.4	379.4	387.5	390.4 a
	Finished steels (other than sheets, tinplates, tubes, forgings and castings)	314.4	340.7	341.1	342.5	343.4
	Steel wire rods	319.9	322.6	322.6	322.6	322.6
	Heavy steel rails and fish-plates	347.7	375.4	375.4	375.4	375.4
	Steel plates (alloy)	334.2	341.8	341.8	341.8	341.8
	Steel plates (non-alloy)	303.8	354.7	354.7	354.7	354.7
	Steel sheet piling	341.2	391.8	391.8	391.8	391.8
	Heavy steel bars and sections	333.4	384.2	384.2	384.2	384.2
	Light re-rolled bars and sections	327.8	330.7	336.1	339.1	339.1
	Hot rolled steel strip	357.1	357.3	357.3	357.3	357.3 a
	Bright steel bars (non-alloy)	315.7	337.2	337.2	339.4	342.7
	Cold rolled steel strip (non-alloy)	313.1	329.9	329.9	329.9	333.7 a
	Alloy steel bars and rods, black (excluding stainless)	279.2	299.1	299.1	319.7	327.2
	Finished stainless steels	256.2	259.6	253.2	253.2	253.2
	High speed tool and magnet steel	292.5	297.5	297.5	297.5	297.5 a
	Steel castings	290.6	317.3	318.8	327.8	333.4 e
	Carbon steel castings	295.8	320.3	322.0	336.3	339.3 e
	Stainless and heat resisting alloy steel castings	252.3	275.4	275.6	278.1	290.3 e
	Other alloy steel castings	314.3	348.6	351.2	354.8	359.8 e
	Structural steel	322.1	358.7	358.7	358.7	358.7
	Forgings (other than drop forgings)	392.5	419.6	427.9	428.1	436.6 a
312	Steel tubes					
	Steel tubes and fittings	337.8	381.7	381.8	382.3	382.6
	Steel tubes (other than electric conduit tubes)	340.8	385.6	385.6	385.6	385.6 a
	Non-alloy steel tubes, hot finished	363.1	417.6	417.6	417.6	417.6 a
	Pipe fittings	285.1	319.1	319.1	327.2	332.4
313	Iron castings etc	317.1	348.8	350.0	354.6	357.8
313/3 and 313/4	Iron castings	309.8	340.8	342.2	347.6	351.4
313/4	Other iron castings					
	Cast and spun iron pipes and fittings	330.6	360.5	360.5	360.5	360.6 e
321	Aluminium and aluminium alloys					
	Wrought aluminium	275.2	297.6	298.5	295.1	298.7 e a
	Aluminium: Rolled	280.6	308.1	310.1	295.7	295.7 e
	Extruded and drawn aluminium products – other than wire	276.2	295.4	291.8	295.3	295.3 e
	Aluminium: Castings	279.4	294.4	298.1	298.9	311.2 a
	Aluminium: Forgings	242.6	290.0	290.0	290.0	290.0
322	Copper, brass and other copper alloys					
	Copper tubes	166.9	149.0	151.0	160.9	169.0 e
	Brass ingots	170.6	138.8	140.5	145.5	147.5
	Mechanical engineering					
331	Agricultural machinery	284.0	322.6 p	323.7 p	324.5	326.7
	Soil preparation and cultivating machinery	282.2	325.2	326.7 p	327.1	328.3
	Harvesting, threshing, feed-processing machinery etc	291.8	329.7	330.0	331.2	334.2
	Pick-up balers	298.8	339.5	339.5	340.3	341.0
	Grinding mills and meal mixers	279.8	315.7	320.4	329.5	329.5
	Milking machines	272.7	311.5 p	316.1 p	316.1	317.8
	Other agricultural machinery (spraying machinery, general purpose elevators and conveyors etc)	272.3	307.8	308.3 p	308.7	308.9 b
332	Metal-working machine tools	288.6	322.2	322.8 p	329.4	332.2
332/1	Metal-cutting machine tools	291.1	328.5	328.5	335.2	338.7
332/2	Metal-forming machine tools	283.2	308.9	311.4	317.1	320.8
333	Pumps, valves, compressors, fluid power equipment	255.3	278.1 p	282.4 p	286.4	287.2
333/1	Pumps	246.0	269.0	270.2	277.0	277.4
	Kerbside petrol and oil measuring pumps	244.7	267.7	277.6	279.5	281.2
	Industrial pumps	246.1	269.0	269.8	276.8	277.1
	Centrifugal, turbine and axial flow pumps	253.4	278.2	279.4	282.3	282.8
333/2	Industrial valves	275.4	296.9	300.5	305.2	307.0
	Iron valves	285.5	309.6	314.0	315.0	317.6
	Steel valves	280.4	303.3	309.1	311.9	312.0
	Non-ferrous valves	259.9	277.2	277.2	286.9	291.0
333/3	Air and gas compressors	271.4	301.0 p	308.5 p	312.9	313.8
333/4	Fluid power equipment					
	Oil/hydraulic fluid power equipment	238.3	261.4	266.0	266.0	266.2
	Pneumatic fluid power and control equipment	208.8	224.0	233.8	235.4	235.4
334	Stationary internal combustion engines and steam turbines	268.5	310.0	312.0	317.2	317.6
336	Construction and earth-moving equipment	281.6	302.3 p	309.9 p	310.9	311.8
	Contractors' plant and parts	281.4	301.8	309.6 p	310.1	311.0 a
	Excavators, trenchers, diggers etc	313.9	332.5	343.9 p	344.2	346.1
	Concrete mixers	264.0	290.7	304.2 p	307.9	310.3
	Dumpers	265.6	291.1	300.0	300.5	300.5
	Crawler tractors	252.7	276.4	281.0	281.0	281.0 a
	Crushing and screening plant and parts	275.7	299.7 p	301.7 p	308.6	312.5
337	Mechanical handling equipment	256.1	285.3	286.1	289.8	294.9
337/2	Cranes	252.1	282.5	282.9	283.2	290.4
337/4	Lifting and winding devices	264.4	290.9	290.9	292.0	296.0
337/5	Powered industrial trucks and tractors	277.3	306.1	307.0	314.0	317.1
339/1	Mining machinery	232.7	247.5 p	249.9 p	251.3	251.9
339/3	Commercial and industrial refrigeration machinery	272.6	297.7	297.9	300.9	303.2
339/5	Scales and weighing machinery	273.1	301.7	301.7	304.4	304.4
339/6	Portable power tools	234.1	253.3	255.8	256.4	256.9
339/7	Food and drink processing machinery	258.8	292.0	292.5	295.4	296.1
339/9	Miscellaneous machinery	258.3	290.5 p	293.1 p	295.6	296.5
	Instrument engineering					
352	Clocks, watches and time recorders	240.3	272.0	273.7	273.7	274.3
354	Scientific and industrial instruments and systems	217.9	243.8	244.6	245.3	246.1
354/1	Optical instruments					
	Microscopes	221.9	253.2	263.0	263.0	264.1 b
354/2	Other scientific and industrial instruments					
	Process measuring and control instruments	225.5	260.1	260.1	260.1	260.1 b
	Analytical instruments	200.5	224.3	224.3	224.8	225.0
	Spectrophotometers and absorptiometers	167.2	185.8	185.8	187.7	187.7
	Electrical testing, measuring and control instruments	210.8	226.7	228.1	230.3	233.5

a No longer published or available from September. **b** No longer published from September but available on request. For further details see *Trade and Industry*, 19 May, page 393.

Table 3a *continued*

1968 SIC		1977	1978			
		May	Feb	Mar	Apr p	May p
Electrical engineering						
365	Broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	165.7	173.0	172.9 p	173.2	174.0
365/1	Gramophone records and pre-recorded tapes	197.0	222.7	222.7	222.7	222.7
	Gramophone records	203.5	230.7	230.7	230.7	230.7
	Pre-recorded tapes – cassettes	199.7	221.8	221.8	221.8	221.8
	Pre-recorded tapes – cartridges	170.1	190.6	190.6	190.6	190.6
365/2	Other broadcast receiving and sound reproduction equipment	162.2	167.5	167.5 p	167.8	168.6
	Domestic television receivers[a]	166.1	169.6	169.6 p	169.7	170.6
	Domestic television receivers – colour[a]	148.9	155.5	155.6 p	156.0	156.9
	Domestic television receivers – monochrome[a]	171.0	173.6	173.6 p	173.6	174.5
	Record players and tape recorders	154.2	156.0	154.3	155.4	156.2 a
368	Domestic electrical appliances	216.2	238.7	238.7	242.0	242.8
	Domestic electrical cooking appliances	226.2	247.0	247.1	256.1	256.6
	Electric cookers	227.8	247.9	247.9	260.0	260.4
	Domestic electrical heating appliances	229.8	255.3	255.3	258.2	258.5
	Electric fires	237.4	261.1	261.1	268.7	269.4 a
	Electric water heaters, wash boilers etc	278.3	309.6	309.6	310.2	310.2
	Electric vacuum cleaners and polishers	227.3	256.3	256.3	256.3	258.0
	Domestic electric flat irons	247.0	273.4	275.3	275.7	276.7
	Domestic refrigerators, gas and electric	206.8	225.1	225.1	225.1	226.7
	Domestic electric refrigerators	218.2	234.7	234.7	234.7	237.0 a
369/2 and 369/3	Batteries and accumulators	276.4	289.5	291.8	292.0	294.2
369/4	Electric lamps and fluorescent tubes	238.2	240.6	252.6	255.5	255.5
Vehicles						
380	Wheeled tractors	363.4	400.2	400.2	402.1	409.5
381	Motor vehicles					
	Passenger cars	290.7	326.2	326.2	326.4	327.3
	Passenger cars[a]	265.1	297.4	297.4	297.6	298.4
	Commercial and public service vehicles	317.2	356.1	356.1	356.6	358.8
	Commercial vehicles	320.8	360.8	360.8	360.8	362.8
	Commercial vehicles and chassis not exceeding 3.5 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	321.4	364.2	364.2	364.2	365.8
	Commercial vehicles and chassis exceeding 3.5 tons but not exceeding 16 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	327.4	362.5	362.5	362.5	364.7
	Commercial vehicles and chassis exceeding 16 tons Gross Vehicle Weight	291.7	320.9	320.9	321.7	326.9
	Commercial vehicles not exceeding 1½ tons Gross Vehicle Weight	324.2	369.0	369.0	369.0	369.0 a
	Commercial vehicles and chassis over 1½ tons Gross Vehicle Weight	314.5	349.8	349.8	350.2	352.1 a
	Public service vehicles	305.1	334.8	335.7	340.2	344.8
Metal goods not elsewhere specified						
390	Engineers' small tools and gauges					
	Engineers' cutting tools	244.1	267.6	269.3	269.4	269.7
	Engineers' cutting tools: diamond	199.4	216.5	216.9	219.1	219.1
	Engineers' cutting tools and parts: non-diamond	246.2	268.9	270.7	270.7	271.1 a
	Hacksaw blades	265.5	296.4	296.4	296.4	296.4
391	Hand tools and implements	296.1	338.9	338.9	338.9	344.1
392	Cutlery and tableware etc	256.6	283.9	287.2	292.3	292.3
393	Nuts and bolts etc	330.1	362.7	376.1 p	376.1	377.4 e
	High tensile steel nuts and bolts	348.4	371.4	386.1 p	386.1	387.4 e
399	Metal industries not elsewhere specified					
399/1	Metal furniture, office and works equipment	236.9	261.9	262.7	264.4	264.6
	Metal non-domestic furniture	246.1	275.3	275.7	278.1	278.4
	Metal chairs	213.3	227.5	227.5	231.9	231.9 a
	Metal cabinets	239.2	276.4	276.4	276.4	276.4
399/2	Metal windows and door frames					
	Metal windows	406.8	439.1	439.2	447.2	449.6
399/9	Domestic gas appliances	213.1	241.8	244.1	246.6	246.7
	Gas cookers	211.6	243.1	245.6	245.6	245.6
	Gas water heaters and wash boilers	238.8	255.7	260.1	263.1	263.1
	Gas fires and space heaters	205.4	233.4	234.6	241.9	242.1
	Gas water heaters and gas fires	214.6	239.6	241.7	247.7	247.9 a
399/12	Miscellaneous metal goods					
	Catering equipment	242.0	261.8	262.1	265.0	270.2
	Plumbers' brassware	215.4	225.9	229.6	234.1	237.1 a
	Domestic oil burning appliances	274.3	299.9	299.9	299.9	304.2 a
Textiles						
411	Man-made fibres production	198.2	200.4	200.1	199.9	200.4
412	Spinning and doubling on the cotton and flax systems	247.9	229.6	231.5	232.8	234.2 e b
	Cotton yarns, cotton-spun man-made fibres yarns and mixtures of both	282.4	254.6	257.5	258.8	260.3 e a
413	Weaving of cotton, linen and man-made-fibres	257.3	262.7	264.0	265.4	266.8 e
	Woven cotton cloth in the loomstate	272.6	262.2	263.4	265.3	266.9 e
	Man-made fibres fabrics in the loomstate	236.6	254.3	255.5	256.0	257.4 e a
414	Woollen and worsted	287.6	295.3	296.7	299.6	303.0 e
414/2	Worsted spinning	273.5	278.5	279.9	282.5	285.4 e
	Yarns of wool spun on the worsted system	295.4	296.8	297.8	299.8	302.5
	Yarns of man-made fibres spun on the worsted system	205.9	219.2	219.7	220.2	221.4 e
417	Hosiery and other knitted goods	198.1	213.4	214.4	217.9	218.7 e b
419	Carpets and rugs	250.3	270.0	270.0	270.3	270.3
	Carpets	250.0	269.5	269.6	269.8	269.8 a
	Carpets-woven	278.0	301.2	301.2	301.2	301.2
	Tufted carpets	194.7	207.1	207.1	207.6	207.7 b
429	Other textile industries					
429/1	Asbestos manufactures	244.9	271.1	271.1	271.1	271.1
Leather, leather goods and fur						
431/1	Leather for footwear	218.2	213.7	215.9	215.9	216.2 e
Clothing and footwear						
450	Footwear – including rubber footwear	228.6	254.1	255.5	256.1	257.1
Bricks, pottery, glass, cement, etc						
461	Bricks, fireclay and refractory goods	304.9	333.9	336.1	340.4	341.0
461/1	Refractory goods including bricks	313.7	347.3	347.3	348.7	349.5
461/2	Non-refractory goods including building bricks	300.9	327.6	330.8	336.5	337.0
	Building bricks – delivered	311.8	336.0	340.0	344.0	345.3 a
	Engineering bricks – delivered	324.6	357.8	358.6	367.9	377.2
463	Glass	273.0	298.8	300.7	303.9	304.5
463/1	Glass other than containers	265.9	289.6	291.5	293.2	294.1
	Flat glass (including safety and silvered glass)	261.8	280.4	282.2	282.2	282.8
	Glazing sheet and plate glass	246.1	265.5	265.5	265.5	265.5 a
463/2	Glass containers	283.6	312.7	314.4	319.9	319.9
464	Cement	280.6	314.6	326.2	329.6	329.6 b
	Cement – delivered in bulk	280.6	314.6	326.2	329.6	329.6
	Cement – delivered in bags	280.7	314.6	326.2	329.6	329.6 a
469/2	Building materials not elsewhere specified	292.7	320.2	324.9	330.9	334.7
	Precast concrete products	275.2	306.6	310.2	315.4	316.3
	Precast concrete pipes – delivered	328.6	371.9	371.9	372.0	372.1
	Precast concrete manholes – delivered	255.7	288.8	288.8	288.8	288.8 b
	Plaster gypsum	265.0	276.6	276.6	276.6	285.6 a
	Mastic asphalt	283.3	301.5	300.9	301.9	301.9 b
Timber, furniture, etc						
471/1	Timber, sawmilling etc					
	Homegrown hardwood – sawn	286.2	324.5	337.3	341.7	349.2
471/2	Building joinery	322.8	341.5	341.9	342.7	343.2
	Timber structures and structural components	320.4	339.5	340.4	340.9	342.1 b
	Door sets, doors and door frames (excluding hardwood doors architecturally designed)	331.4	353.0	353.0	354.2	354.3 a
	Windows and window frames (wood)	353.2	374.9	374.9	375.4	375.4
	Other building joinery (ie architectural and general joinery)	333.3	346.8	346.8	348.2	348.2 b
472	Furniture and upholstery	245.6	266.7	268.7	270.2	271.2
	Domestic furniture	241.2	261.7	263.5	265.3	266.5
	Non-upholstered furniture – domestic	253.8	275.8	276.9	279.0	280.8
	Bedroom furniture	216.7	238.9	240.5	242.2	244.4
	Bookcases, bookshelves, bureaux, occasional furniture	244.4	274.4	274.7	274.7	274.9
	Dining room furniture	247.3	282.3	285.6	287.4	288.1
	Kitchen furniture	287.5	302.9	302.9	306.1	308.4
	Upholstered furniture	220.6	238.7	241.6	242.8	243.1
	Two and three-piece suites	209.8	224.4	224.9	225.9	226.2 a
	Fireside chairs – open wood arm easy chairs	248.8	274.9	288.8	291.9	292.4 a
473	Bedding etc	277.6	304.9	305.9	306.9	308.0 b
	Upholstered spring interior mattresses	287.0	299.8	300.4	302.4	304.6
	Divan sets	295.8	331.3	331.3	331.3	331.3 a
Paper, printing and publishing						
481	Paper and board	289.6	287.6	287.8	288.2	289.6
	Printings and writings – excluding newsprint	285.8	283.3	283.3	283.3	282.3 a
482	Packaging products of paper, board and associated materials					
482/1	Cardboard boxes, cartons and packing cases – fibreboard	282.4	297.7	297.7	299.2	301.9

a No longer published or available from September. b No longer published from September but available on request. For further details see *Trade and Industry*, 19 May, page 393.

Table 3a Commodities produced in the United Kingdom *continued*

1968 SIC		1977 May	1978 Feb	Mar	Apr p	May p
483	Manufactured stationery	292.1	306.4	308.5	317.6	319.0
489	Other printing, publishing, bookbinding, etc					
	General printing, bookbinding, etc	232.2	243.5	243.6	244.8	254.5 ■
Other manufacturing industries						
491	Rubber manufactures					
491/1	Rubber tyres and tubes	243.3	258.4	258.4	258.1	261.0
492	Linoleum, plastics, floor covering and leathercloth					
	Linoleum and felt base	226.3	272.5	272.5	272.5	272.5
102/1 and 103	Part Aggregates for concrete	249.8	263.9	264.8	267.5	283.3 ■
312, 361/2, 362, 369/5	Part Electrical installation materials, domestic	241.4	262.3 p	269.1 p	270.6	272.5 ■
338, 399/1, 399/3, 472	Part Office equipment and machinery	219.0	241.9	242.3	243.1	243.6 ■
399/1, 472	Part Office furniture	270.7	301.1	301.8	303.3	303.5 ■
412, 414	Part All spun man-made fibres yarns	229.1	233.1	234.2	232.7	234.0 e ■

[1] Index based on scheduled outer zone prices for minimum bulk loads of 500 gallons (motor spirit 1 000 gallons) exclusive of rebates. p Provisional. e Estimates which are subject to possible major revisions. [2] Excludes sales to rental companies. [3] Inclusive of purchase tax (before its abolition), VAT and Car Tax. r Revised.

■ No longer published or available from September. For further details see *Trade and Industry*, 19 May, page 393.

Table 3b Commodities wholly or mainly imported into the United Kingdom (published monthly)

1970 = 100

	1977 May	1978 Feb	Mar	Apr p	May p
Hides and skins	387.8	343.8	349.4	359.1	376.0
Non-ferrous metals:					
Aluminium, virgin ingot delivered	246.2	265.7	265.7	265.7	265.7
Copper [1]	135.3	106.3	111.5	117.7	121.4
Lead [1]	303.4	236.3	240.5	244.2	235.9
Tin, ingot min. 99.75% [1]	374.1	409.4	391.1	388.2	420.8
Zinc [1]	289.0	199.6	216.2	243.1	250.4
Zinc [2]	357.0	230.4	225.2	237.5	247.2
Natural rubber	269.1	243.0	254.1	259.5	285.2 ■
Textiles:					
Raw cotton, all types	387.7	287.7	300.6	314.6	326.4
American types, cif Liverpool	398.2	283.5	297.3	310.8	323.0 ■
Egyptian types, cif Liverpool	335.5	308.8	317.1	333.7	343.6 ■
Raw wool – all types	338.6	300.4	304.5	318.3	324.5
Imported	331.4	294.5	298.2	313.4	321.5
Imported, merino	308.3	276.5	280.8	294.4	298.4
Imported, fine crossbred	327.8	296.3	302.4	315.7	322.8 ■
Imported, medium and coarse crossbred	412.8	357.8	358.4	379.9	398.1 ■
British types	379.5	333.8	340.4	346.0	341.4
Timber:					
Imported hardwood (ex-yard or wharf)	360.0	360.6	358.3	359.6	364.0
Imported plywood (delivered to consumers	330.7	324.5	324.1	324.1	324.6 e
Imported softwood (delivered to consumers)	388.2	348.4	346.2	344.9	345.6 e
Woodpulp, imported	349.5	247.8	251.1	257.4	262.1

[1] LME settlement price. [2] Producer's price. p Provisional. e Estimates which are subject to possible major revision.

■ No longer published or available from September. For further details see *Trade and Industry*, 19 May, page 393.

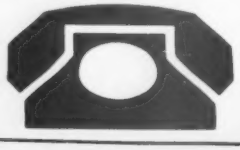
Table 5 United Nations index numbers of world export prices [2]

1970 = 100

	Primary commodities: Total $	Total £	Total Purchasers' currencies	Agricultural non-food $	Agricultural non-food £	Agricultural non-food Purchasers' currencies	Non-ferrous metals $	Non-ferrous metals £	Non-ferrous metals Purchasers' currencies	Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals [2] $	Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals [2] £	Primary commodities and non-ferrous metals [2] Purchasers' currencies
1974 1st qtr	303	318	274	232	244	209	160	168	144	284	298	256
2nd qtr	304	304	263	229	229	198	183	183	159	288	287	249
3rd qtr	309	315	274	221	225	196	142	145	126	287	292	254
4th qtr	320	330	284	212	213	186	126	130	111	294	303	258
1975 1st qtr	312	313	261	201	202	168	124	124	101	287	287	240
2nd qtr	299	309	250	198	204	166	121	125	101	275	284	230
3rd qtr	295	333	261	196	220	173	118	133	105	271	306	240
4th qtr	301	354	271	191	224	172	116	136	104	276	324	249
1976 1st qtr	306	368	279	202	243	184	120	144	109	281	338	256
2nd qtr	310	412	289	212	282	198	135	179	126	286	381	267
3rd qtr	314	427	291	228	308	211	140	190	130	291	395	270
4th qtr	316	459	290	232	337	213	131	190	120	291	423	267
1977 1st qtr	340	476	311	241	338	220	142	199	130	313	439	286
2nd qtr	348	486	314	249	348	224	143	200	129	320	447	289
3rd qtr	339	469	302	227	314	202	138	191	123	312	432	278
4th qtr	338	447	292	221	292	191	141	187	122	312	412	269
1978 1st qtr [3]	343	427	284	232	289	192	141	176	117	316	393	261
Apr [4]	*345*	*448*	*280*	*233*	*303*	*189*	*139*	*180*	*112*	*317*	*412*	*257*
May [4]	*344*	*454*	*284*	*235*	*310*	*194*	*140*	*184*	*116*	*317*	*418*	*262*

[1] Published by the UN in terms of US dollars. For convenience the index numbers are also shown in sterling and in terms of purchases' currencies by converting the dollar index at prevailing exchange rates. [2] This combined index is not published as such by the UN. [3] Provisional. [4] Projections by Department of Industry.

Wholesale price indices: further information



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Correspondence: Departments of Industry, Trade and Prices and Consumer Protection, Economics and Statistics Division 4, Room 249, Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3DB

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday 16 June 1978.

BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
BRITISH					
Warlords of Atlantis	BR/E 39635/18/6/83	95	14 June	EMI Films Ltd	Individual Pictures Ltd
The Peregrine Hunters	BR/E 39642/18/6/83	56	15 June	Children's Film Foundation Ltd	Mark Forstater Productions Ltd
Movietone News 2558	BR/E 39406/18/6/83	8	16 June	British Movietonews Ltd	British Movietonews Ltd
COMMUNITY					
Les Enfants Du Placard	EC 39638/18/6/83	105	14 June	Artificial Eye Film Co Ltd	GMF and INA Paris
Confessions of An Au Pair Girl	EC 39639/18/6/83	78	14 June	Watchgrove Ltd	Medusa Distribuzione S.R.L. Rome
Sexy Schoolteacher	EC 39640/18/6/83	86	14 June	Watchgrove Ltd	Medusa Distribuzione Rome
Le Sheriff	EC 39641/18/6/83	110	15 June	Gala Film Distributors Ltd	Action Films, Filmedis and S.F.P. Paris
Bilitis	EC 39643/18/6/83	95	16 June	New REALM Distributors Ltd	Films 21 and Mars International Production, Paris
FOREIGN					
Game of Death	F 39633	95	14 June	EMI Films Ltd	Paragon Films Kowloon
Katarin	F 39634	45	14 June	EMI Films Ltd	Satadema Films Ltd, Valletta
Fantasm	F 39636	70	14 June	Butcher's Film Distributors Ltd	T.L.N. Film Productions, Melbourne
The Stepford Wives	F 39637	114	14 June	Contemporary Films Ltd	Palomar Pictures International, New York

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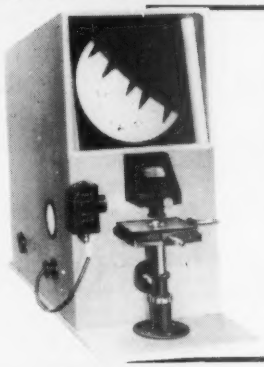

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